Gc
942.5401
L531t
v.5
pt.1-4
1400194

M. L.

GENEALOGY COLLECTION

ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
3 1833 01833 2749

bind in cover

17.

TRANSACTIONS

OF

THE LEICESTERSHIRE

Architectural and Archæological

SOCIETY.

VOL. V.—PART I.

LEICESTER:

SAMUEL CLARKE, 5, GALLOWTREE GATE.

1879.

Price Three Shillings and Sixpence.

[If sent in error to be returned to Mr. Samuel Clarke, 5, Gallowtree Gate, Leicester.]

M. L

GENEALOGY COLLECTION

TRANSACTIONS

OF

THE LEICESTERSHIRE

Architectural and Archæological

SOCIETY.

VOL. V.—PART I.

v. 5, pt. 1-4

LEICESTER:

SAMUEL CLARKE, 5, GALLOWTREE GATE.

1879.

42.5401
.531t
1.5, pt.1-4

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2014

https://archive.org/details/transactionsofle514leic

1400194

Contents.

	PAGE
General Summer Meeting at Ashby-de-la-Zouch, 10th and 11th August, 1875	1
Annual Excursion	2
Bi-Monthly Meeting, 27th September, 1875	8
Bi-Monthly Meeting, 29th November, 1875	9
The Last of Wyggeston's Hospital, Leicester, by Mr. Thomas North, F.S.A.	11
Annual Meeting, 31st January, 1876	13
Bi-Monthly Meeting, 27th March, 1876	17
The Mayor's Seat in the Churches of Leicester, by Mr. Thomas North, F.S.A.	20
Bi-Monthly Meeting, 29th May, 1876	25
The Parish Registers of Frisby-on-the-Wreake, Leicestershire, by Mr. North, F.S.A.	26
Special Meeting, 10th July, 1876	29
General Summer Meeting and Excursion: S. Albans, 19th and 20th July, 1876	30

PAGE

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 31st July, 1876 38

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 25th September, 1876 (*with Illustration*) . 39

The Church Guilds of Melton Mowbray, by Mr. Thomas North, F.S.A. 42

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 27th November, 1876 48

Annual Meeting, 29th January, 1877 53

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 26th March, 1877 57

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 28th May, 1877 59

General Summer Meeting and Excursions: Southwell, 13th and 14th June, 1877 62

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 30th July, 1877 69

The Medbourne Tessellated Pavement: Notes on, by Mr. H. A. Dibbin (*with Illustration*) 69

The Medbourne Tessellated Pavement, Hallaton Church and Castle Hill: Notes on, by the Rev. J. H. Hill, F.S.A. . 70

Glen Parva, Notes on Anglo-Saxon Relics Found at, by Colonel Knight 72

Potters' Marks on Samian Ware Found in Leicestershire, by Mr. Weatherhead 73

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 24th September, 1877 75

Presumed Roman Tiles Found at Bubbenhall near Leamington: Notes on, by The Rev. J. H. Hill, F.S.A. . . . 76

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 26th November, 1877 79

LEICESTERSHIRE ARCHITECTURAL & ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

July 26th, 1875.

In consequence of the small attendance of members no business was transacted; and the Meeting was adjourned.

GENERAL SUMMER MEETING.

The General Summer Meeting for the year 1875 was held at Ashby-de-la-Zouch, on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 10th and the 11th of August.

Tuesday, 10th August.

Having been met by the Vicar of the parish, the members and friends present proceeded to the Parish Church, the details of which—not very interesting—were examined; but the attention of the visitors was most engaged by the stately tomb in the Hastings Chapel, on which lie the effigies of Francis, Earl of Huntingdon (who died in 1561) and his Countess—by the figure of a pilgrim in a sepulchral recess in the north wall of the Church —by the bust of a venerable dame at the eastern end of the gallery in the north aisle—and by the curious old finger-pillory still preserved near the western entrance to the fabric.

Mr. Thomas Nevinson called attention to such points of architectural detail as appeared to him noticeable. The collection of books in the library over the Vestry was visited, and a wish expressed by various archæologists that they should be rescued from the neglected state in which they lie at present.

From the Church, the company went to the Castle, which, in its turn, was very carefully looked at and inspected. Erected four hundred years ago by William, Baron Hastings, the Lord

Chamberlain, favourite, and friend of Edward the Fourth, it still retains in its decay a stately grandeur which impresses every beholder. There are two towers—the Kitchen Tower and the Great Tower; the latter formerly used as a domestic residence, storey above storey bearing traces of adaptation for purposes of household comfort; with the ruins of a beautiful chapel, and other structures added at later dates to the original pile. Every part was studied by the company, from the outside and in the inside, and great interest was expressed in the whole of the remains.

At six o'clock the members and their friends dined at the Royal Hotel.

EVENING MEETING.

At eight o'clock a meeting was held in the large room at the Royal Hotel, under the presidency of the Rev. Canon Pownall, F.S.A., who, after some prefatory remarks, called upon the Rev. R. S. Baker to read his Paper upon the discovery of

ROMAN VESSELS OF BRONZE AT IRCHESTER,

which has since appeared, with illustrations, in the publications of the Associated Architectural Societies.

After remarks from Mr. James Thompson, the Rev. N. F. Lightfoot, and the Rev. H. J. Bigge, F.S.A., the meeting closed.

THE ANNUAL EXCURSION

Took place on the following day,

Wednesday, 11*th August.*

The Royal Hotel, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, was announced as the place of meeting, and thence the excursionists proceeded on their tour at half-past ten o'clock in the morning. At that hour the bugle call was sounded by Mr. Hunt, of Thurnby, and shortly afterwards five conveyances were driven up in front of the hotel, in which the excursionists were quickly seated. The weather in the early part of the day had been very disagreeable, a drizzling thick rain having fallen; but when Mr. Hunt sounded the bugle, upon the commencement of the tour, the sun shone brightly, and there was every prospect that it would favour the party with its presence for the remainder of the day. The excursionists were driven through Ashby, and along the road to

SMISBY.

The party having assembled in the interior of the parish church, Mr. James Thompson stated, that at the request of the committee, Mr. T. Nevinson had undertaken to describe this church and the other churches the party would visit that day. Mr. Nevinson had been over the ground before, and had qualified himself by a personal visit to each of the churches in regard to what he was about to tell them that day. Mr. T. Nevinson then remarked that there was not much to detain them in that church, which seemed to be of two periods. The arcade and the eastern window, and the oldest parts of the church were of the fourteenth century. The church was peculiar as having such very short stumpy columns, and the arches were very low. The roof was of much later date, as were also the windows, with the exception of the eastern one, which he took to be of the same date as the arcade. There was an interesting old monumental slab against the wall in the south aisle, but the only other feature of real interest was some very good linen pattern panelling. The tower was lined with it, and the eastern end of the chancel. This panelling was probably of the date of the newest parts of the church, which though in the Perpendicular style, Mr. Nevinson thought might be of the period of Archbishop Laud, in whose time many alterations and additions were made to churches in that style. The font appeared to be of the same date as the arcade. In answer to Mr. James Thompson, Mr. Nevinson replied that he thought the eastern window dated from 1300 to 1350.

The marble monument in the chancel was pointed out. Upon it were carved representations of nine boys and seven girls, beneath which were the words :—

"Here lyeth the body of Henry Kendall, Esq., who married Elizabeth, daughter of Gabriel Armstrong, of Remston, in the County of Nottingham, Esq., by whom he had issue nine sons and seven daughters."

The monument bore the date of 1627.

The party having closely examined, with evident interest, the architectural features and other peculiarities in the edifice, left the church, again took their seats in the vehicles, and were conveyed through pleasing scenery to

MELBOURNE.

Here a rich treat was in store for the party. The fine old parish church was the first place visited, and Mr. Nevinson, in describing the exterior, said those present would observe that the church was originally a fine specimen of Norman work, but there had been

various alterations made. The aisles had been raised, and the late Perpendicular windows put in, but there were still visible the Norman buttresses below. The next feature was that the clerestory on the north side, retained its Norman character, the only alteration being that the roof had been lowered. The ends of the transepts remained very nearly in their original state, with the exception of the roofs being lowered, and a little alteration made at the corner of one, and the windows being removed. The eastern end of the church had been very much tampered with and injured. The chancel had originally a semicircular apse; the extreme end extended very near to where the present square end of the chancel was. The whole of the interesting Norman arcade which ran originally round the outside of the chancel had been removed, with the exception of one arch on each side at the western end. One of the Norman windows and the flat buttresses remained. The eastern sides of the transepts had originally a semicircular recess for an altar in each, but these had unfortunately disappeared at some early period, and the present windows had been inserted. Mr. Nevinson pointed out that these windows differed, and that they might have been removed from the Priory which stood at the western end of the building. The tracery of the one in the south transept, had evidently been made up from another window. The upper stage of the tower had been entirely rebuilt in a later period, the Norman work ending near the string. There had been a high pitched roof over the chancel, which had a stone vaulted roof with ribs, with a chamber above it. The chancel must have been a glorious structure at one time. The window at the east end was Perpendicular, and on the south side a Norman window remained which had been restored. The clerestory on the south side of the nave was Early English, with double windows. Unfortunately the western end of the church on the outside was very much spoiled by the want of the completion of the two western towers. Sir G. Scott had now capped them, but they originally had or were intended to have an additional stage.

The clergyman said the towers were left entirely open to the weather, and Sir G. Scott doubted whether they were ever finished. The great western doorway was all blocked up, and there was merely a little square door in the centre. On taking it down, they found the stones of each of the present arches. The roof of the gallery of the church was groined and grouted, and was the same as the entrance of many of the Italian churches. The reverend gentleman stated there was a church originally upon that site about the seventh century, and when the Danes were over and wintered at Repton they destroyed most of the churches in the neighbourhood. Melbourne Church, like most of the Saxon churches, was then made of wood, and it was destroyed. It was supposed that the present church was raised very soon after the

Conquest, and that it had some connection with one of the previous kings of Mercia, which was supposed to account for the cross and pellets upon one of the capitals. It had, unlike the Saxon arches, the stilted arch of the Anglo-Normans. They would observe that the arches on the inside of the clerestory of the north side, were of the same character as all the rest, but only a part of one of those arches remained on the south side. It was to be seen in the easternmost window, but the rest of this clerestory was supposed to be built at the time the church was conveyed to the Bishop of Carlisle by Henry the Second. The church had a vaulted roof no doubt, but about 200 or 250 years ago there was a serious fire in the building, which destroyed the greater part of the inside, and left red marks upon the stone. At the time of the restoration he was anxious to know whether that really was the case, and consequently he put some stone into the fire, when it came out the same red colour. The timber of which the roof was now formed had 1632 cut on it. It came down by tradition, that a church was built here by Ethelred, as a kind of atonement for the murder of his queen Ostrid, who was waylaid and murdered by some of the Mercian nobles. It was supposed to be on that spot, as she was on the road from the palace at Repton to the educational establishment at Breedon (which sent an Archbishop to Canterbury), that she was waylaid. A very imperfect picture was discovered during the restorations, upon one of the pillars, of a female being held by the hand by a man who had in his other hand a great club, while another man was squatting down as though lying in wait. In the chancel there was on the north side what moderns called a "squint," but what others called a "hagioscope," and there had been one on the other side. In the south transept there were monuments connected with the Harding family. They were residents at King's Newton, and Sir Henry Harding, the old uncle of Sir Robert Harding, was represented there. When Sir Robert Harding, who succeeded his uncle, came to meet his visitor from the Heralds' College, he grumbled at the fees, and the herald made him take out a new grant, in which he placed the sheels on the chevrons, where the Hardings now bore them. The slabs had been put in order by Captain Harding of the navy. They were originally on the floor, but he (the reverend gentleman) had them removed and placed in their present position. An effigy in this transept was, from its appearance, one of the time of Edward the Third, and it appeared to be that of a warrior who, according to what the heralds were in the habit of saying, must have died in battle, on the losing side, because his sword was in the sheath. If he had died on the winning side the sword would have been unsheathed and pointing upwards. The figure wore the dress of an archer of the time of Edward the Third, but they could not find any person connected with it at all; but

Maurice de Berkley, who died at the battle of Bannockburn, had property in that locality, and was buried there. A beautiful floriated cross was dug up in the course of the reflooring, and is now preserved in the transept.

Mr. Nevinson called attention to the grand effect of the nave of this church, with its massive pillars (four feet eight inches in diameter) with variously carved Norman caps supporting lofty arches ornamented with the zigzag moulding; above this the clerestory on the north side Norman, on the south Early English. Through the jambs of the windows of this clerestory runs a passage round the church in the thickness of the walls. The tower situated at the intersection of the transepts is open two stages and forms a lantern.

The excursionists, who were now joined by the Ven. Archdeacon Fearon, of Loughborough, having carefully surveyed the whole of the interior of the building, repaired to the Melbourne Arms, where a capital luncheon was provided, and heartily enjoyed by about thirty-five persons. After the repast, the party proceeded to the beautiful grounds of the hall, now in the occupation of Mr. Faine. Immediately upon entering the door, the excursionists found themselves in a long shady avenue of yew trees, entirely meeting overhead like a tunnel, which afforded agreeable shelter from the rays of the sun. Passing through an opening, they were conducted into the grounds in front of the hall, which were admirably laid out, and planted with choice flowers. Having inspected the fountains, the pool, and the alcoves in the lower portion of the grounds, the party left, and shortly afterwards again took their places in the vehicles, and were driven to

BREEDON.

The church here is situated upon the brow of a steep hill, and the ascent, under the heat of the sun's rays, was found to be somewhat difficult, but nevertheless the whole of the party accomplished the task with the view of seeing the church. No one had cause to regret the exertion necessarily involved in ascending the hill; as from the top a splendid view of miles of the surrounding country was obtainable, the scenery being charming. With regard to the exterior of the church,

Mr. Nevinson said the south side appeared to be of three different styles—Early English, Geometric, and Perpendicular. There were some extraordinary carvings at the corner of the porch which extended round the side. These were very much earlier, probably Early Norman, and no doubt had been taken out of the fabric which existed before the present one. He could not say what was their meaning. The figures were very flat, and not at

all in high relief. On the east ends of the aisles the early lancet windows were very good, but of the middle one he need say nothing, as it was thoroughly debased. The two lower stages of the tower were Norman, and contained on the second stage some good examples of Norman windows, which could only be seen on the inside. There was also a curious carving representing a winged figure built into the interior of this stage on the south side. This carving appeared to be of the date of those alluded to on the outside of the porch. It should be stated that the tower originally stood at the junction of the nave with the choir, but the former has been entirely removed, the present church consisting of what was once the choir only, and the tower. There was some perplexity about a pier built against the outside of the western face of the tower, but from the appearance of a mark of an apex of a roof above, it is probable this pier was one of the supports of a building erected after the nave had been destroyed. In the porch there was some Early English work with the characteristic dog-tooth. In the interior of the church Mr. Nevinson first called attention to the north aisle as being the most interesting part of the church. It had a good Early English stone groined roof. The columns, with the exception of the centre one, were of the same date. There was an ornamental pew with a canopy—a large erection like a state bed, which was carefully guarded—cut off from the rest of the church by strong iron gates. This was not to be commended; and he might say with regard to the rest of the church, that if it could be reseated, and they could get rid of the high pews, it would be an improvement. There was some carving on the spandrils of the arches of beautiful execution. These were some of the same series as those on the outside. Casts of all these were to be found in the Leicester Museum, where they could study them at leisure. The roof of the nave was quite late, and might be very much improved by moulding the great timbers. The clerestory was of the Perpendicular period. Some of the party then visited the interior of the tower at the suggestion of Mr. Nevinson. In the north aisle were the Shirley family monuments: full-length effigies in armour, which were also railed off and unapproachable.

The excursionists having surveyed and admired the surrounding scenery, descended the hill, again took their places in the vehicles, and were conveyed to

WORTHINGTON.

Having assembled within the interior of the church, Mr. Nevinson said the whole of the walls appeared to be Early English, though going into Early Decorated work. One of the windows had a cusped head. The west end was Early English.

The bell-gable had gone, and a brick turret erected. The roof was all concealed, as well as the walls, by being plastered. The open seats Nichols spoke of had gone, and high seats substituted. The font was of the Perpendicular period, but it had been broken. The remains of the chancel screen were just visible. There seemed to have been a piscina on the south side of the chancel and a locker on the north side. The arrangements at the east end were very meagre and poor. The party then left the church, and after once more taking their seats were driven through a beautifully wooded locality to

COLEORTON.

After the whole had entered the church, Mr. Nevinson said that building was not so interesting to them as archæologists as some they had visited that day. The tower and the tower arch were old, but the other part of the edifice had been almost entirely rebuilt. The church had been capitally restored and excellently fitted up for Divine worship. Most of the windows were of stained glass. Two by Messrs. Clayton and Bell were much to be commended. Mr. Nevinson pointed out some excellent Flemish carving of about the seventeenth century in the front and at the back of the organ. That at the back of the instrument contained various scenes in the history of the Saviour. In the south aisle was a monument containing full length effigies of Sir Henry Beaumont, who died on the 31st March, 1607, and Elizabeth his wife, who died on the 26th March, 1608.

The excursionists, having completed their programme of visits to churches, again repaired to the vehicles, and were conveyed to the Royal Hotel at Ashby. At 6.5 p.m. the Leicester Members of the Society and their friends returned to town, after having thoroughly enjoyed the Annual Excursion of 1875.

September 27th, 1875.

The Rev. Canon Pownall, F.S.A., in the chair.

Mr. A. H. Paget presented to the Society a copy of his pamphlet entitled "Shakespeare's Plays—a chapter of Stage History."

Mr. T. Brooks of Barkby, was elected a member of the Society.

The following antiquities, &c., were exhibited :—

By Mr. Wartnaby : A posy ring of the seventeenth century, with the inscription :—

"Al myne shal be thyne."

It was found in a field near Hothorpe, Northamptonshire, about the year 1815.

By the Rev. Canon Pownall, F.S.A. : A Roman ring of bronze to wear on the finger. Permanently attached to the outer side of the ring was a little key also of bronze which, when the ring was worn, lay flat upon the finger. It was, perhaps, the key of a casket, of which, for good reasons, the owner might desire to keep close possession. Also a silver penny of Anlaf, King of Northumbria, A.D. 941-945. The coin was found recently in Ireland and was, as might be supposed, a rarity. Anlaf, called "King of Ireland," was the son of Guthferth. In 941 he was elected by the people to be King of Northumbria, but four years afterwards he was driven out by Edmund. The coin bears on the obverse the Danish Raven, the badge of the Danes' enchanted standard, and reads :—

+ ANLAF CVNVNC

And on the reverse :—

+ ADELFERD MINETR.

November 29th, 1875.

The Rev. Canon Pownall, F.S.A., in the chair.

The following antiquities, &c., were exhibited :—

By Rev. T. Farebrother : A silver groat of Edward IV., struck at London, with the distinctive mint marks of a coin of that reign. Found at Wanlip.

By Mr. Hunt : An old Oriental jar, dug up in the Caledonian Road, London, 5 feet deep ; supposed Roman inkstand found in London ; an iron key dug up in Bishopgate churchyard, London ; a copper key, found in Cardington ballast hole, near Bedford ; a Dutch tobacco box, beautifully engraved—early in the seventeenth century ; six Roman coins ; a model of a mummy, generally found with the mummy itself.

By Mr. Weatherhead : Pair of earthen vessels, of dark red glazed ware, ornamented with foliated devices, &c., brought from Girgeh (or Gerga), Upper Egypt, on the Nile, by a gentleman

lately returned from Africa. These vessels are termed "Goolahs" by the natives. A beautifully executed piece of work in ivory, probably a kind of knitting or tatting sheath (?) "I am led," said Mr. Weatherhead, "to infer that this may have been the probable use of this curious article, from the fact of there being a small box with a lid at one end, intended, perhaps, to hold a silken or cotton ball, the thread of which would pass through the hole perforated at the side. The lid of the box represents the Goddess 'Hebe,' and the outer or convex portion, represents, in bold relief, the mythological subject of 'Pluto carrying off Proserpine.' I also show a curiously engraved powder horn, time of George II. Upon it will be found delineated, the Royal Arms of England, New York City, Albany, Royal Blockhouse; with the following various forts, viz., Stanwix, Markeman, Edward, Miller, Saratoga, Stilwater, Johnston, Fort Hunter, &c.; and bearing the name of 'Patrick Smith, his horn, 1760.' It was in this year that the surrender of Montreal, and the complete conquest of Canada took place."

By the Rev. Canon Pownall, F.S.A.: *St. Augustini Expositio Psalterii.* Mr. Pownall remarked, "This book was printed at Basle, in the year 1489, by Master Joannes de Amerbach; and with its Gothic character, and initial letters partly coloured, and partly left unfinished, is an interesting as well as rare specimen of early typography. But it is interesting also for another reason; it was once a volume in the Arundel Library. That "magnificent" Earl of Arundel who collected the famous "Arundel Marbles," while engaged in foreign travel, collected books as well; and the one collection was scarcely more important than the other. After the Earl's death (1646) both collections seem to have passed into the hands of his grandson, Henry Howard, who succeeded to the dukedom of Norfolk in 1677. Of this nobleman we meet with several notices in the well-known memoirs of John Evelyn. And Evelyn tells us what Henry Howard did with his grandfather's library of books, and how he came to do it. Under the year 1667, 9th January, he says:—"To the Royal Society, which since ye sad conflagration (the fire of London) were invited by Mr. Howard to sit at Arundel House in the Strand, who at my instigation likewise bestowed on the Society that noble library which his grandfather especially, and his ancestors had collected. This gentleman had so little inclination to books, that it was the preservation of them from imbezzlement." Two years later the gift was again referred to. 1669, March 4, Evelyn writes:—"To the Council of the R. Society about disposing my Lord Howard's library, now given to us." Not until 1678, however, do we find the Society formally acknowledging the gift, nor does Evelyn explain the cause of delay, but in his entry of August 29, of that year, we read:—"I was called to London to wait upon the Duke of Norfolk, who having at my sole request bestowed the Arundelian library on the Royal Society, sent to me

to take charge of the bookes and remove them, onely stipulating that I would suffer the Herauld's chief officer, Sir William Dugdale, to have such of them as concerned Herauldry, and the Marshall's office, bookes of Armourie and Genealogies, the Duke being Earl Marshall of England. I procured for our Society, besides printed bookes neere 100 MSS., some in Greeke, of great concernment. The printed bookes being of the oldest impressions are not the lesse valuable; I esteem them almost equal to MSS. Amongst them are most of the Fathers, printed at Basil, before the Jesuits abused them with their expurgatory indexes; there is a noble MS. of Vitruvius. Many of these bookes had been presented by popes, cardinals, and greater persons, to the Earls of Arundel and Dukes of Norfolk; and the late magnificent Earl of Arundel bought a noble library in Germanie, which is in this collection. I should not, for the honoure I beare the family, have persuaded the Duke to part with these, had I not seen how negligent he was of them, suffering the priests and everybody to carry away and dispose of what they pleas'd, so that abundance of rare things are irrecoverably gone. Having taken order here, I went to the Royal Society to give them an account of what I had procur'd, that they might call a council and appoint a day to waite on the Duke to thank him for this munificent gift." That this volume belonged to the Arundel library, and is one of those mentioned in the foregoing extract from Evelyn's Diary, is proved by a press mark or stamp on the leaf exhibiting the table of contents, and which reads, "Soc. Reg. Lond. ex dono Henr. Howard, Norfolciensis." Another stamp at the end of the book reads [Roy. Soc. Sold.]

Mr. North, F.S.A., contributed the following notes on

THE LAST OF WYGGESTON'S HOSPITAL.

In preparation for the erection of new schools in connection with Wyggeston's Hospital, Leicester, many changes have taken place not only on the site of the Hospital itself, but upon the ground between that site and the Highcross Street.

Most of our members will remember the quaint outline presented by the frontages of the houses in the Highcross Street from the old Nag's Head to the Peacock Inn. There was the Nag's Head with its porch (the sole survivor, I believe, of house porches in Leicester of its date) erected in the year 1662, the house of the Confrater of Wyggeston's Hospital, portions of which were coeval with the Hospital itself, and several other houses apparently erected in the reigns of the two first Georges.

These all disappeared in the month of May, 1874.

Other and more important changes have taken place since that date, a record of which ought to find a place in our Transactions.

So long ago as the year 1863 the Committee of this Society took steps to show that in any changes which might be made with regard to its use, the demolition of the ancient Hospital of William of Wyggeston, then standing in Leicester, was both unnecessary and undesirable.

In our last Annual Report were detailed the efforts made by a Sub-Committee to avert, if possible, the destruction of the Hospital, with its Chapel, which was then not only threatened, but impending.

It will be remembered that the last effort of that Sub-Committee was the requesting of the Hospital School Governors to postpone the removal of the old Hospital, with a view to afford this Society an opportunity of making an offer to them for its purchase, with or without the Master's house.

The reply to that request, dated the 9th of July, 1874, was that the removal of the Chapel, Hospital, and Master's house would not be proceeded with at present, but that the Governors could not hold out any expectation of their entertaining an application to purchase the buildings.

So the matter rested for a year.

In July, 1875, an announcement was made that on Monday, the 9th of August, the "whole of the valuable building materials in "the Wyggeston Hospital Buildings, St. Martin's West, including "a splendid old and massive timbered oak roof, oak moulded "Gothic doors," &c., &c., would be sold by auction.

The two curious wood porches in S. Martin's West, having carved upon them the rebus of the founder, were not included in the sale.

The proceedings at the sale were fully reported in the local newspapers of the time, and the buildings were speedily demolished according to the conditions of sale, and the materials removed.

The porches and the seats from the chapel were given to a member of this Society; the former to be used at S. Nicolas' Church, Leicester, and the latter in the Chapel of Trinity Hospital in the Newarke.

The memorial slabs had previously been removed to the chapel of the new Hospital, and the bell which bore the inscription:

"William Wigston Founder John Pike Warden 1689"

had, on the 1st of April, 1874, been taken down by order of the Trustees.

We have thus to record the destruction—without as most of us think an adequate reason—of one of the very few ancient buildings standing in Leicester; a building which, erected in his own age, and most probably from designs approved by himself, should, as

we asserted over and over again, have been preserved as a memorial of the munificence and charity of one of Leicester's greatest benefactors.

What will the trustees get in place of the old Hospital, which, whilst it might have been converted into use, was graced by so many associations, and of its chapel, the sacred resting place of the dead?—A proposed modern gymnasium, at a considerable cost, and ninety-two pounds!!

ANNUAL MEETING.

January 31*st*, 1876.

The Rev. Canon Pownall, F.S.A., in the chair.

After the transaction of business in Committee the following

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1875

was read:—

The Leicestershire Architectural and Archæological Society, which was established on the 10th of January, 1855, attains its majority this year. Your Committee, on presenting a short report of its proceedings during the past twelve months, trusts it may congratulate the members upon this fact, with the hope that its work for that period has not been without beneficial results in promoting the objects for which it was established.

Your Committee is sorry to note in this report the demolition of the ancient Hospital (with the Chapel attached) of William of Wyggeston, in Leicester, since the last annual meeting. The circumstances attending the final destruction of that venerable building were brought before the Society in a paper by Mr. North at our last bi-monthly meeting. Your Committee would have failed in its plain duty if it had not used every proper available means for averting, what it still thinks, an unnecessary and uncalled for destruction of a most interesting building of a past age, which was at the same time a valuable relic of the munificence of a former townsman of Leicester.

The Volume of the Associated Societies, and the first part of Volume IV. of our own Transactions, were placed in your hands last year. The latter had somewhat fewer pages of letter-press than its predecessors; that curtailment will, it is proposed, be compensated for this year by the increased length of the second part, which is already in the hands of the printer.

The Summer Meeting, held at Ashby-de-la-Zouch, in conjunction with our friends, the Members of the Northants Society, was (though shorn of its usual attractions) an instructive and agreeable one. The Rev. A. S. Baker read a valuable Paper upon *The discovery of Roman Vessels of Bronze at Irchester, Northants*, which elicited a discussion from the members present. The excursion on the following day was to Smisby, Melbourne, Breedon, Worthington, and Coleorton, where the architectural features of the churches were described by Mr. Thomas Nevinson.

At the bi-monthly meetings of the Society several valuable antiquities were shown, amongst which may be mentioned rare coins of Offa, King of Mercia (A.D. 756-96); several rings, English and foreign; Roman relics found in Leicester, and an extremely interesting copy of S. Augustine's *Expositio Psalterii*, printed at Basle, in 1489, and once forming part of the magnificent Arundel Library. Many of these antiquities were accompanied by short descriptive memoirs; apart from which there

have been, during the year, fewer Papers than usual read before the Society. These bi-monthly meetings, which have been for many years sources of great pleasure and profit to all attending them, threaten to become less so from an apparent falling off on the part of our members—with several praiseworthy exceptions—of a desire not only to attend them, but to uphold their attractiveness. Your Committee strongly urges upon all, and especially upon the younger members of the Society, the desirability of carrying on with energy and zeal this part of the Society's work. Your Committee had the pleasure (in conjunction with the Leicester Literary and Philosophical Society) of welcoming the members of the Warwickshire Field Club to Leicester in May last. Under the guidance of several members of your Committee, those gentlemen visited the chief objects of antiquarian interest in the town, and were, it is believed, much pleased with their visit. Considerable works have been carried on at some of the churches in Leicester during the past year.

All Saints' Church, Leicester.

The nave of this church, with the aisles, have been carefully restored by Messrs. Goddard and Paget, architects, of Leicester. The restoration included the entire renovation of the stone work, both externally and internally, and new tracery to the whole of the windows, the old having nearly all disappeared, and brickwork inserted in its place. The style of this part of the church is Early Decorated, and the windows have accordingly been filled with tracery in that style. The clerestory is later (Perpendicular), and the windows in it have been carefully restored from those remaining. The roof of the nave—which, until the restoration, consisted of a flat plaster ceiling—has been converted into a panelled timber roof of the Perpendicular period, with leg pieces coming down the walls, resting on carved stone corbels. This feature is a great gain to the appearance of the church; in fact, the whole appearance of the inside of the church by the above-mentioned alterations, and by the removal of the heavy gallery which ran across the whole of the western end of the nave and aisles, is very satisfactory. During the progress of the works a very good ogee cusped recess, with a piscina adjoining, was discovered at the east end of the south wall of the south aisle. It is difficult to say whether the recess is sepulchral, or was intended to hold seats. A holy-water stoop was also brought to light at the west end of the nave,

S. Nicolas' Church, Leicester.

A new north aisle has been added to this church by the liberality of Mr. W. Perry-Herrick, of Beaumanor Park, Messrs. Ordish and Traylen, of Leicester, being the architects. This aisle takes the place of the original Norman one, taken down about two hundred years ago. The new aisle is Early Decorated in design, and considerably broader than the old one, the remains of the foundations of which were discovered during the building. In the west wall in the inside a rich canopied niche, brought from the chapel of Wyggeston's Hospital, in the town of Leicester, lately demolished, has been erected—the gift of Mr. Thomas Nevinson—which adds much to the beauty of the building, besides preserving an interesting relic.

S. Saviour's Church, Leicester.

This large church is being built by the munificence of the Rev. F. G. Burnaby, from the designs of Sir Gilbert Scott, R.A. The material used is principally red brick with stone dressings. The pillars of the arcade are of the former material, with the exception of the four large ones at the angles of the transepts, which are of polished Shap granite. As the church is only in course of erection, it is perhaps too early at present to make a lengthened report upon it; but it will evidently be a grand and imposing building.

Trinity Hospital, Leicester.

The ancient carved oak seats formerly in the chapel of Wyggeston's Hospital, Leicester, having been presented by the authorities of that institution, are being placed in the chapel of this Hospital, under the care of Mr. Thomas Nevinson.

MELTON MOWBRAY CHURCH.

This grand church is again in the hands of the architect. Sir G. Gilbert Scott reports that the upper windows of the tower are unsafe, and the stone in danger of falling through the roof. The necessary repairs are forthwith to be undertaken by the trustees of the late Mr. Thomas Ward. Further works are contemplated. It is hoped that those who have this fine church in their keeping will strictly follow the advice of their architect, and not attempt any alterations or additions without his express approval. Other architectural works are in progress in the county, which may hereafter call for notice.

The following

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

for the past year was laid before the meeting.

It was read by Captain Whitby as follows:—

THE LEICESTERSHIRE ARCHITECTURAL AND ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

TREASURER'S STATEMENT, 1875.

RECEIPTS.		£.	s.	d.
1875.				
Jan. 1.	Balance in hand ..	24	16	11
Dec. 31.	By Subscriptions and arrears received during the year ..	86	0	6
	By Northants Society on account of Ashby Meeting	2	15	0
		£113	12	5

PAYMENTS.		£.	s.	d.
1875.				
To Transactions—Balance of Volume III.		3	9	10
To do. for Part I., Vol. IV. ..		35	0	0
To Rev. J. H. Hill's Gartree Hundred		2	10	0
To expenses of Ashby Meeting		5	10	0
To Mr. Williamson for Volume		26	17	2
To Royal Archæological Institute		1	1	0
To Advertising		1	11	6
To Mr. Clarke, Printing, &c., &c.		5	9	8
To Rent—one year		5	0	0
To Postages, Hall Keeper and Sundries		2	2	10
To Cheques		0	2	0
To Balance in hand		24	18	5
		£113	12	5

1876.—Jan. 1. Balance in hand, £24 18s. 5d.

Examined and found correct,

ALFRED WHITBY, AUDITOR.

RESOLVED that the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts be adopted and passed.

That the names of the Rev. Canon Willes and Mr. Wartnaby be added to the Committee.

That the thanks of the Society be given to the Rev. Canon Pownall, F.S.A., for his services as Chairman at the bi-monthly meetings during the past year; to the Mayor of Leicester for the use of the Town Library for the meetings; and to the gentlemen of the press for reporting the proceedings thereat.

That the Rev. J. H. Hill, F.S.A., be requested to take the chair at the bi-monthly meetings during the current year.

The Rev. Canon Pownall, F.S.A., presented to the Society a copy of his Paper read before the Numismatic Society on the Coins of Offa, King of Mercia.

The following antiquities, &c., were exhibited:—

By the Rev. Canon Burfield: A portion of tesselated pavement from Pompeii.

By Major Bellairs: Coins of Claudius, Constantine, Commodus, Crispina, Maximinus; medal struck on the acquittal of Horne Tooke for high treason; an American halfpenny of 1811—an imitation of English money.

By Mr. Thompson for Mr. Emberlin: An old tortoise-shell snuff box, of oval shape, with oval silver plate on the lid, inscribed with the name of its owner, and 1678. On the bottom, on an oval silver plate, a country house of the period is delineated, a kind of castellated mansion, having two turret angles and old porch, and outbuildings in front. The box is the property of Mr. H. E. Emberlin, of Oadby.

By Mr. Agar: Coins of Antoninus Pius (138, A.D.); Julia Mammæa, mother of Alexander Severus I.; Maximinus (235); Phillipus, junior (244); Maxentius (306).

By Mr. Sarson: A small earthenware vessel found in Leicester four feet beneath the surface.

By Mr. G. H. Nevinson: Brass coin of Hadrian, found in Leicester; a fragment of floor-tile from S. Nicolas' Church, with figure of animal, and letters in relief.

Mr. James Thompson read some observations on the recent discovery of bronze vessels at Irchester, in Northamptonshire, brought under the notice of this Society by the Rev. R. S. Baker, of Hargrave, near Kimbolton, at the meeting held last year at Ashby-de-la-Zouch. Mr. Thompson's purpose was to show that the vessels were used formerly for cooking purposes, illustrating his brief argument by a reference to a paper in Mr. Roach Smith's *Collectanea Antiqua*, Vol. II., written by Sir Henry Dryden, Bart., on a discovery at Shefford, Bedfordshire. The state of "the Chester," near Irchester, in former times, was also referred to by Mr. Thompson.

March 27th, 1876.

The Rev. J. H. Hill, F.S.A., in the chair.

THE LATE MR. W. PERRY-HERRICK.

The following communication from Mr. Thomas North, F.S.A. (one of the Honorary Secretaries of the Society) was read:—

Ventnor, Isle of Wight,
25th March, 1876.

My dear Sir,

Since the last meeting of this Society we have lost by death one of its founders, Mr. William Perry-Herrick. Mr. Herrick, not only was one of its constant supporters, but he sympathized heartily in its objects. Descended from a long line of ancestors, who for centuries were closely connected with Leicester, he ever took a lively interest in all that elucidated its history, or that in any way appertained to the welfare of its inhabitants. The beautiful estate of Beaumanor became his as the descendant of the Sir William Heyricke, who, as a London goldsmith, did not lose his love for his native county, but purchased an estate full of picturesque beauty, and left it to his descendants, the last of whom is now laid in his grave.

It is not necessary here to speak of the many traits in the character of the late Mr. Herrick which entitled him to, and obtained for him, the respect and high estimation alike of his neighbours in town and county. Leicester, by the mouth of its chief magistrate, speaking from his place in the Council Chamber lately, bore testimony to the debt of gratitude the town owes to his memory.

It is with regard to Mr. Herrick, as a Member of our Society, that a notice, however brief, should, it is thought, be brought forward to-day.

Mr. Herrick was personally acquainted with Mr. J. B. Nichols, the author of the well-known, valuable, and now scarce, History of Leicestershire. The grandson of that Mr. Nichols—the late Mr. John Gough Nichols, F.S.A.—who inherited his grandfather's antiquarian tastes, was a frequent and welcome visitor at Beaumanor, possessing to the time of his death, the esteem and confidence of Mr. Herrick. He had ready access to, and permission to use for literary purposes, the large collection of family manuscripts and papers preserved at Beaumanor, which his grandfather had previously searched, and used to a considerable extent, in the compilation of his History of the County.

Mr. Herrick's courtesy in this respect was not confined to Mr. Nichols: when the Historian of Leicester—our friend and fellow worker in this Society, Mr. James Thompson—was compiling his history of the town, he, too, had access to the manuscripts at Beaumanor relating to the Heyricke family, many of which throw considerable light upon the domestic life of Leicester men in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries; and at a later period Papers read before this Society by Mr. John Gough Nichols, and by Mr. Thompson, show that Mr. Herrick's manuscripts were still accessible to them.

As before intimated, Mr. Herrick was one of a few gentlemen, who, twenty-one years ago, took part in the formation of this Society. He always furthered its success as much as lay in his power, entertaining its members upon more than one occasion with his usual genial hospitality at Beaumanor, and throwing open his beautiful house and its treasures to his numerous archæological visitors. He gave a practical proof of his interest in antiquarian and historical studies by, perhaps unfortunately, advancing to a gentlemen now deceased, a large sum of money to enable him to publish a History of the County, which history was never issued, and so Mr. Herrick's generosity failed in its purpose. It may well be said "unfortunately," because the failure undoubtedly acted as a hindrance to the reissue, in some form, of Nichols's great work, which Mr. Herrick, in common with many other gentlemen, was well inclined to encourage.

Neither did Mr. Herrick's interest in antiquarian pursuits languish with advancing years. A few years ago he placed his family papers in the hands of the late Mr. John Gough Nichols in order to have them arranged, bound and indexed. These papers may be thus classified:—

I. Three volumes of letters of Alderman Robert Heyricke (whose portrait is in the Guild Hall, Leicester) to his brother Sir William Heyricke, in London, to which are added many other family letters; appended is a copious calendar, and an index of names prepared by Mr. Burtt, of the Public Record Office. Very many of these letters are printed in the History of Leicestershire.

II. A volume of matters of account between Sir William Heyricke and the Crown and other great personages, showing sums of money due to him; there is a calendar appended.

III. Two volumes of letters and papers not supposed to be of any historical importance.

IV. A volume of letters relating to the sons of Sir William Heyricke, principally when they were at College; most of them published in Nichols's History of the County.

V. A volume of documents of a local nature relating to Beaumanor and Woodhouse.

As the existence of these manuscripts is well-known, and as

they have been extensively used by local historians, the writer thinks he is not taking an undue liberty with the contents of a private library in thus enumerating their contents. Neither, he hopes, will it be out of place to say, as showing the interest Mr. Herrick took in such historical records to the end of his days, that one of the last acts of his long and useful life was to read through some transcripts of a portion of these family papers lately placed in his hands, though made some years ago; and a few days before his death he expressed a desire to have further portions plainly transcribed in order to be able to read them with greater ease and comfort.

Being assured that all the members of this Society will feel deeply the loss sustained by the death of Mr. Herrick, it must be a source of satisfaction to know that to the last of a life extended beyond the average length, he possessed—through the loving mercy of a gracious God—the entire and unimpaired use of his mental powers, and enjoyed with a thankful heart, those material blessings which providence, in so lavish a manner, had poured upon him.

I remain, my dear Sir, yours faithfully,

THOMAS NORTH.

To the Chairman of the Leicestershire Architectural and Archæological Society.

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Honorary Secretary be requested to communicate to Mrs. Perry-Herrick the sorrow felt by the Society on the death of Mr. Perry-Herrick, and its grateful appreciation of his services to the Society in communicating antiquarian discoveries on his estate to the Society, and its remembrances of his liberal hospitality.

The following gentlemen were elected MEMBERS :—

The Right Hon. the Earl Howe, the Rev. J. B. Dickson, LL.D., Mr. Henry Bailey, and Mr. J. M. Fewkes.

The following were exhibited :—

By the CHAIRMAN: Plans and Elevations for the Restoration of the Parish Church of Medbourne, in this county, which were approved; and also one of the parts of "*The Parochial and Family History of the Deanery of Trigg Minor, in the county of Cornwall,*" which he presented to the Society.

By MR. ORDISH: a photograph of a new church at Pendlebury, near Manchester, in the county of Lancaster.

By the REV. T. FAREBROTHER: a large paper copy of "*Hudson's Monumental Brasses of Northamptonshire,*" and also illustrations of "*The Priory Church of S. Mary, at Tynemouth,*" by Mr. Edward Sharpe, M.A.

By Mr. Nevinson: a coin which was supposed to be a Nuremberg token, but not of the usual type, found in the churchyard of All Saints', Leicester.

By Mr. Barwell: an ancient tile found in Cank Street, Leicester, apparently heraldic, but too much abraded to be decyphered; also a half-crown of William and Mary, a half-crown of Charles I., and a small bronze coin of Constantine, in good preservation.

Mr. North, F.S.A., contributed the following Paper upon

THE MAYOR'S SEAT IN THE CHURCHES OF LEICESTER.

Before the passing of the Municipal Corporations Act in 1835, it was usual for the Mayor of Leicester, as well as of most other Corporate towns, to attend Divine Service in the church of the parish in which he resided. He went in state, preceded by the mace-bearer, and attended by his brethren the Aldermen, and by the members of the Council all attired in their official robes. This attandance of the Mayor in the Leicester churches, as the Chief Magistrate of the Borough, necessitated—as conducive to order, and to a due recognition of "the powers that be"—the setting apart of a special seat for his use upon those occasions. We accordingly find that in each parish church of Leicester there was not only "The Mayor's Seat," with an arrangement by which the mace could be set up at his back or over his head, but, in one case at least, a seat for the Mayoress, and others for the Aldermen, and for the "Forty-Eight," as the Councillors were then called. As most of these seats have in late years been removed, it appeared that a record of their positions accompanied by a few brief notes might not be out of place as a contribution to the Transactions of this Society. S. Martin's, as the central church in the town, first claims attention, but as I may have rather more to say about that than some of the others, I will place it last on my list.

S. Margaret's Church.—The situation of the Mayor's seat here was against the second pillar from the east on the south side of the nave. It was of oak, classical in design, and capped by a pediment. It was removed about twenty-five years ago, and was, it is believed, destroyed.

S. Mary's Church.—The Corporation being the Lay Rectors of this parish, the Mayor's seat here was placed within the chancel. It stood against the north wall a little way from the western end. It appears to have been taken down about the year 1845, when the restoration of the church was commenced, and it was not preserved.

In the accounts of the Chamberlains of the Borough for the year 1649-50, I find a payment to Thomas Cartwrite "ffor mendinge the place ffor the newe mace att St. Marie's Church."

It is well-known that each Mayor of Leicester, after his election, attends a Court of the Duchy of Lancaster, at the Royal Castle of Leicester, and there, before the Constable (or his deputy) appointed by the Crown as representing the ancient Earls of Leicester, makes oath as to the pre-eminence of the Duchy. It was customary for the Mayor to go in state with the mace borne before him. This symbol was carried erect until the gateway leading into the Castle yard was reached, when the mace was lowered or "sloped" in recognition of the supremacy of the Royal authority, and was so carried whilst within the immediate precincts of the Castle. This custom was never agreeable to the Corporation of Leicester, and when it was sought—as it was occasionally—to be enforced upon the Mayor whenever he appeared officially within any portion of the Newarke, it was stoutly, and generally successfully, resisted. Upon one occasion an altercation appears to have taken place respecting the observance, which has an immediate reference to the subject now before us. It is well told in the Hall Book of the Corporation under date of 8th October, 1678. "Whereas Henry Dyson, Gen., did upon Sunday last, being the sixth day of this instant October, stop Mr. Mayor as he was going to hear divine service at his Parish Church of St. Mary in Leicester, and caused the sergeants and mace-bearer (after an unusual manner) to sloop their maces, and also when they came to ye church door, and would not suffer the great mace to be sett up in the case where it usually did hang. It is ordered at this Hall that if Mr. Dyson shall ever hereafter offer the like affront, Mr. Mayor shall consult with persons learned in the law, in what manner ye Town may proceed to vindicate their Ancient Rights and Privileges."

S. Nicholas' Church.—The Mayor's seat here stood against the wall which then blocked up the eastern arch on the north side of the nave. It was of oak, in the Jacobean style, but with a pediment of a later date. The carving was good, but painted. It was removed when the church was restored, and the arch opened about two years ago.

All Saints' Church.—The seat here originally stood against the north wall of the north aisle, rather eastward of the middle. It has now (since the restoration of the church) been placed against the same wall more eastward, and so almost adjoining the tower arch. It can there be seen. There is nothing attractive in its design, being "Carpenter's Gothic" with cherubs' heads and ornaments in composition.

S. George's Church.—This church, which was consecrated in 1827, is the only modern church in Leicester which possesses a Mayor's seat. It stands against a pillar about the middle of the south side of the nave.

S. Martin's Church.—The Mayor's seat in this church stood against the first pillar from the east on the south side of the nave. It was removed when the church was reseated about twenty-four years ago, and a portion of it now forms the seat in the Archdeacon's Court at the east end of the great south aisle. It is of oak, in the classic style. Two Corinthian columns support a rounded pediment in which are the Royal arms. This being the central church of the town, and being more closely connected officially with the members of the Corporation than any other, it might be supposed that special care would be taken to provide here ample accommodation for them when attending divine service. This supposition is found to be correct by several entries in the local and parochial records relating to the official seats erected in this church. It appears from these records that not only was there a seat here for the Mayor, but one for the Mayoress, and others for the Aldermen, and for the members of the Council. The first notice I find of these seats in S. Martin's Church is in the accounts of the Churchwardens of that parish, who under date of 1547-8 say :—

"Itm̃ p^{d}. for mendynge Mestres Mayrye seyt..... iiij^{d}."

In the accounts of the Chamberlains of the Borough for the year 1551-2 are these entries :—

"Itm̃ p^{d}. to John Wryght for payntyng in Mr. Meres Chappell for the Mace ..... xij^{d}.
"Itm̃ p^{d}. to Robert Hore for an yorne (iron) to hang the mace in ther ..... iiij^{d}."

If anything more is meant here than the usual official seat, I incline to think that "Mr. Mayor's Chapel" was at the eastern end of the great south aisle. It was there the altar of the Guild of Corpus Christi stood, the Guild which in pre-Reformation times owned, and used, for its own purposes, the Guild Hall, which has now, for so many years, served the purpose of a Town Hall for Leicester. What more natural than that the Corporation having, upon the suppression of the Guild, purchased the Hall for municipal purposes, should also occupy, in some way, the chapel where formerly the altar of the Guild stood, and where its priests served? This is called in the Churchwardens' accounts

"o^{r} lady's quere," and moreover in that choir the Mayor and others used to assemble on "Palm Sunday" to audit the Wardens' accounts. In 1553-4 the Churchwardens charge:—

"Itm̃ p^{d}. to Mr. Manbe for ix yards & half of sey* for Mr. Mayres seate and Mestres Mayrs ..... x^{s}. iij^{d}.
"Itm̃ p^{d}. to Mr. Heyrek for a red skyn for the same .. x^{d}."

In 1561-2 sixteen-pence was paid for "garnyssyng of Mr. Mayres sete." In 1569-70 "a matt in Mayr's seat" cost fourpence, and in 1583-4 the seat was "trimmed" at a cost of eight shillings and sixpence.

In 1586-7 I find the first mention of the Aldermen's seats in this church The Churchwardens say: "Paments for the Mayor's brethrens' Chappell," and amongst other payments charge:—

"Imprimis paid for tenn yardes of seellinge to Henrye bringhurste at ij^{s}. the yard ..... xx^{s}.
"Itm̃ for viij yardes and a q. and a dq. (8$\frac{3}{8}$ yards) of green flannell at xj^{d}. the yard .....vij^{s}. viij^{d}.
"Itm̃ payd red lether to set the same on the seats ... vj^{d}."

There are charges for "a seat dore," "hingels for the chappell dore," &c.

Most of the seats in the church were then probably simple benches with uprights at the ends. The Aldermen, however, were provided with desks for their books:—

"Itm̃ for a deske borde to lay there bookes on ..... vj^{d}."

And, as marking the degeneracy of the race, or the length of the sermons—

"Itm̃ for two peeces to leane there bakes to ..... viij^{d}."

The next reference to the official seats here points to a provision for the members of the Council, or the "Forty-eight" as they were generally called. It is under date of 1593-4:—

"7 Nov., 1593. Itm̃ paied to Willm Greene for iiij^{or} dayes worke and his boy in and aboute the makinge of the seats for the xlviij^{tie} ..... iij^{s}. iiij^{d}."

In 1614-15 the Churchwardens charge:—

"Itm̃ payd for a matt for the Chamberlyn's sheate ... ix^{d}."

* I suppose Say, a thin silk.

Mr. Mayor's seat appears to have been furbished up in 1627-8, when the Churchwardens paid sixteen shillings for "gildinge and triminge" it.

When King Charles the First and his Consort visited Leicester in the summer of 1634, the Churchwardens of S. Martin made great preparation to receive him in their church on Sunday the 10th of August. They cleaned, painted, and whitewashed the church, painted the King's arms, purchased rushes to spread on the floor, and "boughs" to decorate the building. They not only removed two rows of ordinary seats, but also the Aldermen's seats, to make room for a proper seat for the King, which they provided with a cushion, upon which was placed a "Comon prayer booke" which cost fifteen shillings, and a bunch of flowers which cost fourpence. After the King's departure, the Aldermen's seats were replaced.

The last circumstance connected with the Mayor's seat in S. Martin's Church I would mention is a melancholy one, which, however, gave rise to a question ef etiquette as to the use of the seat, and the position therein of the mace. It is told very clearly in the Hall Book (page 713). I am indebted for this extract (not having it amongst my own) to Mr. Kelly's interesting Paper on *The Great Mace*, p. 33-4.

"Memorandum—that uppon Wednesday, the 17th day of November, 1658, Mr. Samuel Wanley, Mayor, dyed.

"Thursday, the 18th of November.

"This day divers of the Ancients that had been Mayors mett att the Guild Hall, to advise what was fitt to bee done as to the Eleccon of a new Mayor, and how things should be carryed on in the meane time, and agreed that Mr. Richard Ludlam, being the senior Justice, should bee in the nature of a Deputy Mayor until the Eleccon of a new one, and should have the Mace carryed after him, lying upon the Mace-bearer's arme,

. . . . . .

"Friday, the 19th of November.

"Both Companies appearinge att the funerall accordinge to invitation, the ffunerall proceeded thus:—

"The Two Sergeants att Mace, having their Maces covered with blacke Tifany,* went before the Corpes, Mrs. Wanley being led by her Sonne, and attended by the Town Clerke; and divers Mourners followed the Corps, and after them the Aldermen, Gentry, and the Forty Eight.

"The body being interred, Mrs. Wanley, attended as before, returned into the Maioress her seate, it being hung with mourninge, and the greate Mace was carried into, and laid downe in the Mayor's Seate, it being likewise hung with mourninge; Mr. Ludlam sitting

* Called "Tayfetta" in old records: a thin silk.

alone in the next seate to it; and the Sermon beinge ended, was carried after Mr. Ludlam to his house and lodged there and Mrs. Wanley returned to her house attended as before.

. . . . . .

"The Lord's Day, being the 21st day of November.

"Mr. Ludlam went to the Church, attended by the Mace Bearer, where he sat as on ffriday before, the Mace lying as before, Mrs. Wanley, attended by the Town Clerk and Mourners, went to Church and satt in the Mayores(s') seate, it still continuing covered with blacke."

On the following day Mr. William Franke was elected Mayor for the remainder of the term.

May 29th, 1876.

The Rev. J. H. Hill in the chair.

The following New Members were elected:—The Right Honourable the Lord de Clifford, and Dr. Mutch, M.R.C.S.

The Right Honourable the Earl Howe, and The Right Honourable the Lord de Clifford were elected Vice-Presidents of the Society.

The following antiquities, &c., were exhibited:

By Mr. G. H. Nevinson: Five Roman coins (Maximianus, Constantine, &c.,) and a weight, all found in Leicester. Also a button of copper plated with silver, inscribed "Loyal Leicestershire Volunteers." Silver coin of Charles II. (For Mr. T. Nevinson.)—An encaustic tile, found in the excavations for S. Leonard's Church, Leicester, being on the site of the ancient church destroyed in the Civil Wars. The tile was remarkable for its unusual size, having been, when perfect, $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches square. It was of a red colour, the pattern being left in relief, and the ground being filled in with green glaze. The pattern was a shield (set anglewise) in a square of five inches, the bearings being a cross potent between four Maltese crosses, the two upper ones being larger than the lower ones. The corners of the square were filled in with foliage in relief. The broad border beyond the five inch square was quite plain.

By Mr. Hunt: a manacle of the early part of the seventeenth century, found in an old bureau at Smockton, March, 1876.

By the Chairman: a large paper illustrated copy of Blore's East Hundred of Rutland.

Mr. North, F.S.A., contributed the following Paper on

THE PARISH REGISTERS OF FRISBY-ON-THE-WREAKE, CO. LEICESTER.

I am much indebted to Mr. Matthew Pearson for taking (with the kind permission of the Vicar) careful notes of, and extracts from, these Registers.

The Registers here consist of eight books.

I.—A parchment book, with entries from the year 1659 to the year 1812. That is, of baptisms, burials, and marriages, until 1754, and from that date to 1812 of baptisms and burials only.

The entries from 1659 to 1767, appear to be copied from an earlier book, now lost. These are all written in a very clear handwriting.

The earliest entries, under date of 1659, are:—

"Bap: Thomas, the son of Robert Bullivant, March 26th."

"Bur: Robert Whitaker, May 15." "Elizabeith, the wife of Hugh Millner, Aug. 3."

"Mar: Robert Millner and Alice Whitaker, Aug. 30."

The following were the number of baptisms, burials, and marriages in the years mentioned:—

	Baptisms.	Burials.	Marriages.
1660	10		
1661	6	4	2
1662	8	7	1
1663	4	7	0
1664	6	1	1
1665	8	5	2
1666	9	6	2
(One marriage this year was "by Licence of the Court.")			
1667	10	3	4
1668	5	2	0

In 1662 "John Holland, vicar of Frisby," was buried. In 1669, "John, son of Mr. Nicolas Sharp," was buried (28th June).

This Mr. Nicolas Sharp is commemorated on an alabaster tablet on the north wall of the chancel of the parish church. This tablet says:—

"Here lieth the bodie of Nicolas Sharpe,
Of Frisby, in the covntye of Lecester, Gentelman,
Chiefe lord of this towne and Asfordbie,
Who departed the 10 of Aprill, Ano 1614."
Blessed are the dead, &c. (Rev. xiv. 13 v.)

Certain portions of this tablet bearing texts of Scripture (Isa. lvii. 1st v., Psalm xli. 1st v.) were not replaced when the Church was restored, and are now lying exposed in the churchyard.

Tradition says that Nicolas Sharp lived in the hall, a mansion once occupying a site in the centre of the village, where its foundations were visible some years ago. A field there is called "The Hall Orchard," although no trees now grow on the spot. A well still exists, which probably supplied the house with water, and traces of fishponds are discernible. Several of the farm houses in the village are partly built of stone which local tradition says came from the hall when it was demolished. The bones of this "chiefe lord of this towne" were exposed to view when the chancel was restored in 1848, but quickly crumbled to dust upon exposure to the air.

The following were the number of burials in the years indicated:

1705	15	burials.
1706	2	,,
1723	13	,,
1724	15	,,
1725	10	,,
1732	13	,,

Under date of 20th September, 1721, is: "Henry Storer, Vicar of this parish, buried."

1755.—"Rev. Mr. R. Wenman, buried, Vicar of this parish 33 years."

His gravestone is in the north aisle of the church.

In 1758 the number of deaths reached twenty-five. A note is made in a strange hand:—

"Died about 1 in 7 in the natural way."

That is, six out of seven died out of the ordinary course from some epidemic. That epidemic was the small-pox, as is shown by the Register. That terrible scourge is traditionally remembered in the village, it being said that several persons who survived the attack of small-pox never recovered their sight.

In the same year (1758) was buried "Esther Sampson, aged 100, and received from this parish collections at 2s. per week above £100."

In the year 1762, was buried on the 10th of December, "Elizabeth Robinson, aged 104." Her tombstone stands in the churchyard, and says:—

"Here lieth interred the body of
Elizabeth Robbinson, widow, from Belton, Lincolnshire,
Who departed this life December the 7th, 1762,
Aged 104 years."

Unfortunately the registers do not enable the truth of these ages (no doubt inaccurate) to be tested.

Under date of 18th October, 1783, is a burial with the note "new tax." That referred to the Stamp Act passed in that year, which imposed a duty of threepence upon every entry in the parish register. That tax was highly objectionable, as pressing unduly on the poor, and making the clergy tax collectors. The statute was repealed in 1794.

At the end of this register book on the cover is this memorandum:

"The following are the natural children of Carolus R., 2d, Dukes of Monmouth, Cleveland, Grafton, Richmond, Northumberland, St. Albans, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6."

The counting of them is quaintly done.

II.—The second book is a register of marriages from the year 1754 to the year 1792. There is nothing worthy of note in this book, excepting the unusually large number of marriages of non-residents, during a portion of the incumbency of the Rev. W. B. Wragge (*cir.* 1755 to 1789), the names being entered "of Frisby, late of" some other parish named. It is said that he, for a high fee, was in the habit of marrying couples privately, who, without his help, would have had a difficulty in attaining their wishes. Certainly this register tends to confirm the popular belief. Amongst the entries of marriage by this Mr. Wragge is one dated 13th February, 1775, where preparation is made for the bridegroom to make his mark, he being unable to write:—

"Richard Jesson, his mark."

After which is the memorandum, "ran away and refused to fill up the book."

John Brown signs as minister in 1755.

Ph. Hackett signs here one entry in 1762.

T. Woodcock signs as curate in 1790.

T. Noble signs as curate in 1791.

The third book is a register of marriages from 1792 to 1812. In the latter year three new registers were obtained.

(*a*) For burials from 1812, still used.

(*b*) For baptisms from 1812, still used.

(*c*) For marriages from 1812, which lasted till 1836, when two new books were obtained for marriages, which are now in use.

Certain notices and memoranda in the registers of this parish lead me to hazard the following

Supposition as to Dean Swift.

It was not to be expected that the late Mr. Forster in his "*Life of Jonathan Swift*," should attempt an explanation of the causes

which led to the marriage of Jonathan Swift, the father of the Dean, and the son of a Herefordshire clergyman, with Abigail Erick, a Leicestershire lady. Yet in those days of (comparatively) difficult travelling, there most probably were circumstances—not merely accidental—which brought two young people, so far removed by distance from each other, into communication.

That Dean Swift had an immense number of relatives we know from his journal (Forster's *Life*, p. 23). That a family of these might be living in Leicestershire I think probable, for an examination of these Parish Registers of Frisby disclose the name as constantly occurring there, from the commencement of the Books in 1659 until the year 1809, and William Swift was Churchwarden in 1711. It is therefore possible that Jonathan Swift first saw his future wife when upon a visit to his Leicestershire relatives. Again, the register tells that Annie, the daughter of the Rev. Thomas Erick, was buried 24th April, 1669, that is seventeen months after the birth of the future Dean, thus showing that the young girl was either residing in the parish, or was visiting some friends there at the time of her death. Could those friends be her new connections by the marriage of Jonathan Swift and Abigail Erick? Who was the Rev. Thomas Erick? Possibly the son of Thomas Heyricke (or Erick) who was (according to the pedigree of the family in "*Nichols's Leicestershire,*") born in 1588, and left issue unknown.

Once more, as if showing that, in after years, the career of the son of Jonathan and Abigail—Jonathan Swift, D.D., Dean of S. Patrick's—was watched and commented on by the Frisby people; the following is "scribbled" on the fly-leaf of a "banns-book" dating from 1754 to 1792, now preserved with the register of marriages:—

> "from Miss Vanhomrigh S *(sic. perhaps meant for "to")*,
> Dr. Swift declaring
> her passion for him
> and complaining *(sic.)* of his neglect
> of her,
> believe me it is with him."

July 10*th*, 1876.

At a special meeting held this day, the Rev. J. H. Hill, F.S.A., in the chair:

Major F. Palmer, Withcote Hall, and H. J. Grieveson, Esq., Holt Hall, were elected Presidents of the Society; and the following ladies and gentlemen were elected members:—The

Right Honourable the Countess of Cardigan, Deene Park; Mrs. Perry-Herrick, Beaumanor Park; Mrs. W. Hunt, Leicester; Sir A. B. C. Dixie, Market Bosworth; N. C. Curzon, Esq., Lockington; Rev. Canon Broughton, W. J. Freer, Esq., E. Clephan, Esq., R. Waite, Esq., all of Leicester; Rev. A. F. Tollemache, Whitwick; Rev. W. H. Palmer, Wanlip; Rev. C. E. Armstrong, Stonton Wyville; Rev. J. W. Owen, Leicester; Mr. John Willson, Kibworth; Rev. W. E. Ellis, Foxton; Major Mowbray, Overseile; R. F. Martin, Esq., Mountsorrel; G. A. Robinson, Esq., Leicester; F. E. Bigge, Esq., Carlton Curlieu; C. Marriott, Esq., Cotesbach; John Clerk, Esq., Rolleston Hall; Mr. W. Rushin, jun., Leicester.

ANNUAL SUMMER MEETING.

The Annual Summer Meeting for 1876 was held at S. Albans, in conjunction with the Architectural Society of the Archdeaconries of Northampton and Rutland, on Wednesday and Thursday, the 19th and 20th of July.

July 19*th*, 1876.

The members and friends of the two Societies met at Leighton. After a short stay there all proceeded to Dunstable where the Priory Church was visited; after luncheon the party moved on to Luton, where the salient points of the Parish Church were descanted upon by Canon Haddock and Mr. Bloxam. Arriving at S. Albans, the party dined at the "Peahen;" after which a

PUBLIC MEETING

was held in the Assembly Room of the Town Hall, under the presidency of the Rector, the Rev. W. J. Lawrence.

After some preliminary business, and some opening remarks by the Chairman, that gentleman called upon the Rev. Owen Davys to read his Paper upon

THE CHOIR OF S. ALBANS ABBEY.

At the close of Mr. Owen's Paper, which has since been printed in the volume of the Associated Societies, remarks were made upon it by Sir G. Gilbert Scott, R.A.

Mr. James Neale, F.S.A., then read some valuable

NOTES ON S. ALBANS ABBEY,

which have (like Mr. Owen's Paper) been since printed, with several beautiful illustrations, in the volumes of the Reports and Papers of the Associated Societies.

Votes of thanks were unanimously passed to the readers of Papers, and to the members of the S. Albans Architectural Society, for the cordial and hospitable reception given to the visitors.

July 20th, 1876.

At 9.30 the Abbey was visited, and under the guidance of Sir G. G. Scott, R. A., and other gentlemen, both the exterior and interior were carefully examined. The Secretary not having taken any notes, the following report of the proceedings is taken from a local newspaper:—

Viewing the Abbey.

Upwards of sixty or seventy ladies and gentlemen assembled in the western part of the nave of the Abbey, between nine and ten on Thursday morning, preliminary to an examination of the building under the guidance of Sir Gilbert Scott and several other gentlemen. Being prepared to commence the perambulation of the interior of the building before the arrival of all who were expected, and yet being anxious that none should lose the benefit of the description to be given of the various features and peculiarities of the structure, it was suggested, as it was thought desirable to wait, that in the *interim* the party should view the exterior of the Abbey; and Sir Gilbert Scott at once led the way by the western doors to the north side of the church, where a very general view was obtained. Speaking first of the tower, Sir Gilbert mentioned that it was originally plastered, the same as were all the parts that were built of Roman brick. The bricks were never meant to be seen at all; hence the reason for the whole of the tower, with the exception of the small stone pillars in the arcading, being covered over with plaster, which remained till the restoration commenced. Having secured the tower, in their simplicity they meant to restore the plaster as before, but their work in this respect turned out so hideously ugly that, while the old plaster might have looked very well, the new they could not stand at all.

In regard to the Roman brick, or tiles, Sir Gilbert gave a full account, as it comes to us; but he said he did not suppose Matthew Paris meant these common bricks, when he stated that the materials collected by the Norman abbots for the new church were sold to raise money during the famine, but thought that it was some more valuable material, as there would have been no market for the former. He pointed out the work of the different periods from this side of the building, the numerous innovations upon the old Norman church, and the column which is exposed in the wall, together with the site of the existing foundations of S. Andrew's Chapel.

The Rev. Henry Fowler then took up the attention of the party by referring a little in detail to the Chapel of S. Andrew, and the site of the cemetery of the laity which adjoined on the noth-east. Passing the north transept, Sir Gilbert Scott directed notice to the traces of two small doorways over what were at one time two bays of the Norman church, and which led from the triforium passage in the transept to the chambers over the apsidal chapels; and beneath, the doorway in the wall of the north aisle of the sanctuary was referred to as that by which the funeral of the Duchess of Lancaster issued from the Abbey in 1369, and proceeded from thence up the walk leading to the Wax House Gate on the way to Westminster.

In a perambulation extending from above the steps of the Abbey passage into the garden of Orchard House, Mr. Fowler gave some interesting facts and conjectures relating to the boundary wall and the Monastery. The bank extending northward behind the houses in George Street, he said, appeared to be the site of the boundary wall of the convent. In the *Gesta Abbatum* we were told that the Abbey was bounded on the sides towards the town by a continuous stone wall, extending from the west door of the church all round as far as to Holywell Gate, which was near the bridge. After describing the supposed circuit of the wall after being rebuilt by Abbot Thomas-de-la-Mare, who crenellated or fortified it, he referred to the buildings and gardens it enclosed. The position of the Monks' Cemetery he fixed rather indefinitely on the south-east of the Abbey, extending northwards as far as the "Centries" wall. Stone coffins had been dug up within this area; and according to the *Gesta Abbatum*, Abbot Warren, or Garine, in the reign of Richard I., made an ordinance that all the brethren were to be buried in such coffins (*in lapideis sepulchris*).

The usual position of the Chapter House was next the Stype. He supposed Abbot Paul built the first Norman Chapter House, for he was said to have re-erected all the edifices of the Monastery except the bakehouse and the buttery. But in less than a century it was rebuilt by Abbot Robert de Gorham, with other parts of the Monastery. The Norman edifices lasted till the time of Abbot

Whethamsted, who commenced the last Chapter House, and Abbot William Wallingford completed it, of course in the style which they saw so beautifully illustrated in his screen in the Presbytery of the Church. Next to this "Locutory," and probably extending over it, was the Great Dormitory. This was the usual situation for it, it appeared, in Benedictine Monasteries, extending southward from the Chapter House, on the east side of the Great Cloister.

There were strong reasons for supposing S. Cuthbert's Chapel to have stood adjoining the Dormitory at the north end, and extending eastward parallel to the Chapter House. It appeared to be identical with the Chapel of the Hostry, which the document said was contiguous to the Dormitory. The first, a Norman Chapel, as it was well-known, was erected by Abbot Richard de Albeneio, who consecrated Abbot Paul's Church as a thankoffering for the restoration of his paralysed arm. It was becoming ruinous in Abbot Trumpington's time, and he re-erected it, giving it a triple dedication—to S. Cuthbert, John the Baptist, and S. Agnes the Virgin. The Chapel rose high above its basement, and its upper story supplemented the deficient accommodation of the Dormitory. Having alluded again to the Great Dormitory and several other buildings, the speaker was going on to describe the Prior's Manse and Chapel, but time would not permit, and the party at once quitted the gardens and returned to the Abbey.

The examination of the building was commenced at the west end of the nave, and Sir Gilbert Scott having briefly referred to the innovation upon the Norman structure by Abbot John de Cella, called upon Mr. Ridgway Lloyd, who favoured the company by reading the following extract with reference to Abbot John de Cella from Buckler's *History of the Abbey*, therein translated from the *Gesta Abbatum*:—

"He had received from his predecessor, Abbot Warren, one hundred marks, which had been assigned and set apart for the work of the church. He pulled down the wall of the front of our church which was composed of old tiles and indissoluble cement, attending, however, but little to the admonition of which mention is made in the Gospel, that is to say, he who is about to build should compute the cost of those things which are necessary to finish it, lest after he has laid the foundation without being able to complete it, all begin to jest at him, saying, 'This man began to build and was unable to finish it.' He began to bring to the spot timbers, and to provide stones not a few, with columns and planks. He assembled a number of chosen masons, of whom Master Hugh Goldclif was the chief, a deceitful but clever workman, and having dug and thrown out the bottom, in a short time the one hundred marks, with many more, exclusively of daily allowances, were expended, nor as yet had the wall reached the level of its foundations. It happened by the design of the said Hugh, in addition

to the stealth, fraud, impertinence, and, above all, extravagance, before the average of the work had risen to the boarded shed, the Abbot grew tired, weary, and timid, and the work languished. The walls were covered up from the winter, but, in consequence of the tenderness of the stone, were fractured, and from their thinness bulged out and became ruinous, together with their columns, bases, and capitals, and fell with their own weight, so that the wreck of images and flowers became the laughingstock of beholders. The workmen therefore quitted in despair, nor did any wages reward their labours. Howbeit the Abbot, not dismayed on that account, appointed Brother Gilbert de Eversholt guardian of the work, and contributed towards it a sheaf from every acre of sown land. And this lasted from the time from which he began to give (that is to say the third year of his prelacy) through his whole life, about seventeen years, and in the life of the following Abbot, about ten years; neither did that unprosperous work ever appear to increase, nor at last was his heart indulged with the fulfilment of the wish that it might be finished in the time of Abbot John, so that he grieved inconsolably. He added therefore many gifts of gold and silver, if perchance they might promote the work, and had it proclaimed throughout the possessions of St. Alban, and the dioceses of many of the Bishops, sending relics and a certain clerk named Amphibal, whom the Lord, by the intercession of Saints Alban and Amphibal, had raised from the dead, that with the faith of an eyewitness he might bear testimony to the miracle of these saints, he collected not a little money. But that unfortunate work, like the sea, swallowed up all the rivers, nor as yet had a happy advancement begun. Therefore, as the work had gone on fruitlessly in past years, and Brother Gilbert de Eversholt being dead, the custody of the lifeless and languishing work devolved upon Brother Gilbert de Lisseverne, who had charge of the same for about thirty years; who, having spent upon it the above-named supplies, scarcely in that period added more than two feet to its height. With a cheerful countenance but a sad heart, Abbot John betook himself to other works of more propitious prospect. Having neither dismissed nor diminished his forces, he took them off the former employment as above stated. Having pulled down to the ground the old Refectory, which was ruinous and dark, he commenced a new graceful one, which he was worthy happily to complete during his lifetime, and joyfully to banquet therein with the brethren. Raised therefore to better hopes, he pulled down from the foundation the ruinous old dormitory, which was dilapidated by age, with its appendages (namely the house of necessity), and a most noble one built in its place and very creditably accomplished. For the erection of these two noble edifices, the convent, for the term of fifteen years, set apart their allowance of wine; but because the Abbot abandoned the work of the church, he did not live to witness its completion."

In his Paper, Mr. Neale anticipated a good deal of the description given of the Abbey, which will save us giving more here than just a brief outline of what took place during the examination of the building. Sir Gilbert Scott pointed out the principal features of the west front and its portals, explaining that the lower floor line

1400194

of the porches was intended to commence an ascent eastwards by a range of steps, as Mr. Neale says, "evidently with the view to give more dignity and prominence to the high altar." The differences between the work of John de Cella and Trumpington, the "man of business," as he is facetiously called, were shown; as were also the preparations in some of the piers for clustered marble shafts, intended to have been inserted by John de Cella, but which work was afterwards reduced at the caps to four shafts. In the vestry at the west of the north aisle, Mr. Neale exhibited his fine drawings of the Abbey, and thither the party now proceeded and evidently viewed the drawings with considerable interest and admiration. Sir Gilbert Scott availed himself of the opportunity to pay a graceful compliment to Mr. Neale and, lest that gentleman should omit doing so, he informed the company that the drawings were "specimen proofs of Mr. Neale's magnificent work" he was bringing out on the Abbey, to which he would be very glad if all the ladies and gentlemen present would become subscribers. On returning into the nave, Sir Gilbert resumed his description by some allusions to the early thirteenth century work; and Mr. Lloyd succeeded him by giving an account of the interesting and curious distemper paintings which were discovered a few years since on the western faces of the Norman piers on the north side of the nave. The subject of the Crucifixion is repeated in seven of the frescoes, and it had been suggested that they refer to the "stations of the cross." The only objection to that was that they all represent the same subject, and not the series of events terminating in the Crucifixion. With regard to the paintings on the south side of the same piers, they were very interesting. One of these is a large representation of S. Christopher carrying our Lord through the water; and following it on is a figure in archiepiscopal vestments which, for several reasons, it is believed commemorates S. Thomas, of Canterbury (Becket). What can be distinguished of the painting farthest east, Mr. Lloyd describes as two figures and a head, and is of opinion that it is in memory of a bailiff of S. Albans and his wife, as the following inscription was found underneath:—"Pray for the souls of William Tod, formerly bailiff, and Johanna, his wife, and for the soul of William." However, in reference to this conjecture, he mentioned that Mr. Waller, who was an authority upon these matters, had pointed out there was an invariable rule with regard to paintings in churches that they should never have any reference to any but saints. Attention was then directed to the five bays on the south side of the nave, which are of the Decorated period, and Mr. Lloyd read of "the terrible fall of this part of the church, in the time of Hugh de Eversden," from his own work on *The Shrines, Altars, and Monuments in St. Albans Abbey*:—

"In the year 1323, on the day of St. Paulinus the Bishop (October 10th), after the celebration of the Mass of the Blessed Virgin, so dreadful a calamity occurred that previous misfortunes could in comparison with it be reckoned as nothing, or as trifles. For when a great number of men and women had come into the church for the sake of saying their prayers and of hearing Masses, two great columns of the south side of the church gave way at the base, and alas! suddenly fell to the ground, one after the other, with a terrible noise and crash. Then, the laity having rushed in from all sides, as well as the brethren, to behold so grievous a spectacle, and being stupefied by excess of fear, the space of an hour scarcely elapsed, when lo! the whole upper roof of wood which had been constructed upon the columns aforesaid, together with the rafters and beams and the aisle of the south part of the church, and nearly the whole of that side of the cloister, fell likewise. Amongst these ruins, both sudden and dangerous, the tokens of a marvel—indeed, to speak more correctly, of a miracle—indicated the divine interposition by the aid of the Blessed Amphibalus, whose glorious relics rested there. For whereas many of both sexes stood near the ruins, no one was known to be hurt. This is a marvel, but a much greater one followed. The monk who guarded the relics of the same glorious Martyr was at that time celebrating at the altar. He having completed the secret mysteries of the Mass, and received the life-giving Sacraments, and all things, even to the rinsing of the chalice, having been happily accomplished, when he saw the columns fall upon the same altar and round about it, withdrew a little to one side, and so by his help Whose service he was engaged in, and by the merits of the blessed Martyr, he was preserved from danger of death, and from all bodily harm. The wooden props, too, were placed for the support of the ruins spoken of fell upon the feretrum of the same Martyr, but after having broken to pieces the marble pillars of his tomb (*tumba*) they in no degree injured the wooden chest (*capsa*) which contained his relics. But when after three days a number of the servants attempted to loosen and take away the wood, stones, lead, and other materials which lay heaped one upon another, a certain man with foolhardy daring ascended with a pick-axe to the top of the walls; and when he tried to knock out and draw away one portion of the wall which seemed to be hanging and about to fall, all that part upon which he stood gave way under him and he followed it with great violence; but although he was dreadfully injured—for his thigh was broken—yet, meeting with no fatal accident, he was miraculously saved from peril of death."

Here we have actually the day on which the accident occurred, which caused the Decorated work to be substituted for the Norman work—October 10th, 1323. The altars which formerly stood in the nave were described by Mr. Lloyd; and it was said, in reply to an inquirer, that nothing in the way of restoration had been attempted at present in the nave. Having finished the inspection of this part of the building, the party proceeded to the choir and the presbytery, where the work of restoration has been to a great extent completed. The proportions of much of the old Norman

work at this point are simply grand. The structural parts of the choir, presbytery, transepts, and aisles have been restored, and the whole fabric of this part of the church has been strengthened. All the tile paving has been renewed, and in every instance the patterns of the ancient tiles have been exactly copied. The fragments of ancient tiles that have been preserved are laid in the north transept. Sir Gilbert Scott and the Rev. O. W. Davys respectively addressed the company at some length underneath the tower—notably upon the arrangement of the screens, the innovations that have been made from time to time on the ancient work, the beautiful paintings on the choir ceiling (believed to be the work of Thomas-de-la-Mare, *circa* 1370), the singular erections on the walls of the presbytery, and the ancient arrangement of the choir. An inspection was next made of fragments of moulding and sculpture which have from time to time been discovered in various parts of the Abbey during the past forty years, but chiefly during the present restoration. The fragments were arranged in the south transept in chronological order. The party seemed to view the collection with considerable interest. Before leaving the transept the opportunity was taken by a number of ladies and gentlemen to descend the little flight of steps leading to the Stype, where there are some beautiful examples of Decorated work. The company then visited in order the aisles and Saint's Chapel, and the chapels beyond the cloisters. Sir Gilbert Scott gave adequate descriptions of the particular features of the former, while those of the latter were pointed out and commented upon by Mr. Neale. Sir Gilbert reiterated the account of finding the fragments of the substructures of the shrines of S. Alban and of S. Amphibalus, and described the beautiful work of the former very minutely. Duke Humphrey's and other tombs were duly noticed, and the inspection of the Lady Chapel concluded, the party took its farewell of the Abbey.

About three hours were occupied in the examination which is recounted above, and the visitors having to leave for Hatfield by the 1.30 train, very little time was left to visit S. Michael's Church and the ruins of Verulam as was intended, and, as far as many were concerned, this part of the programme was given up. A section of the party, however, went to view the site of the ancient Roman city, which they were just enabled to do, and to join the main party at the Great Northern station in time to leave by the train.

Hatfield House, the seat of the Marquis of Salisbury, was visited in the afternoon by the members of the Northamptonshire and Leicestershire Societies, accompanied by many ladies and gentlemen of the S. Albans Society. The Rev. F. T. Lambert acted as guide. This ancient house and the vineyard of course afforded immense interest to its explorers; and on taking leave of

each other subsequently for their respective destinations, the Societies of Northamptonshire and Leicestershire expressed in the fullest possible terms the gratification they had derived from their visit to S. Albans and the neighbourhood.

July 31*st*, 1876.

The Rev. J. H. Hill, F.S.A., in the chair.

A cordial vote of thanks was passed to the S. Albans Archæological Society for their kind reception of the members of the Leicestershire Archæological Society on their recent visit to S. Albans.

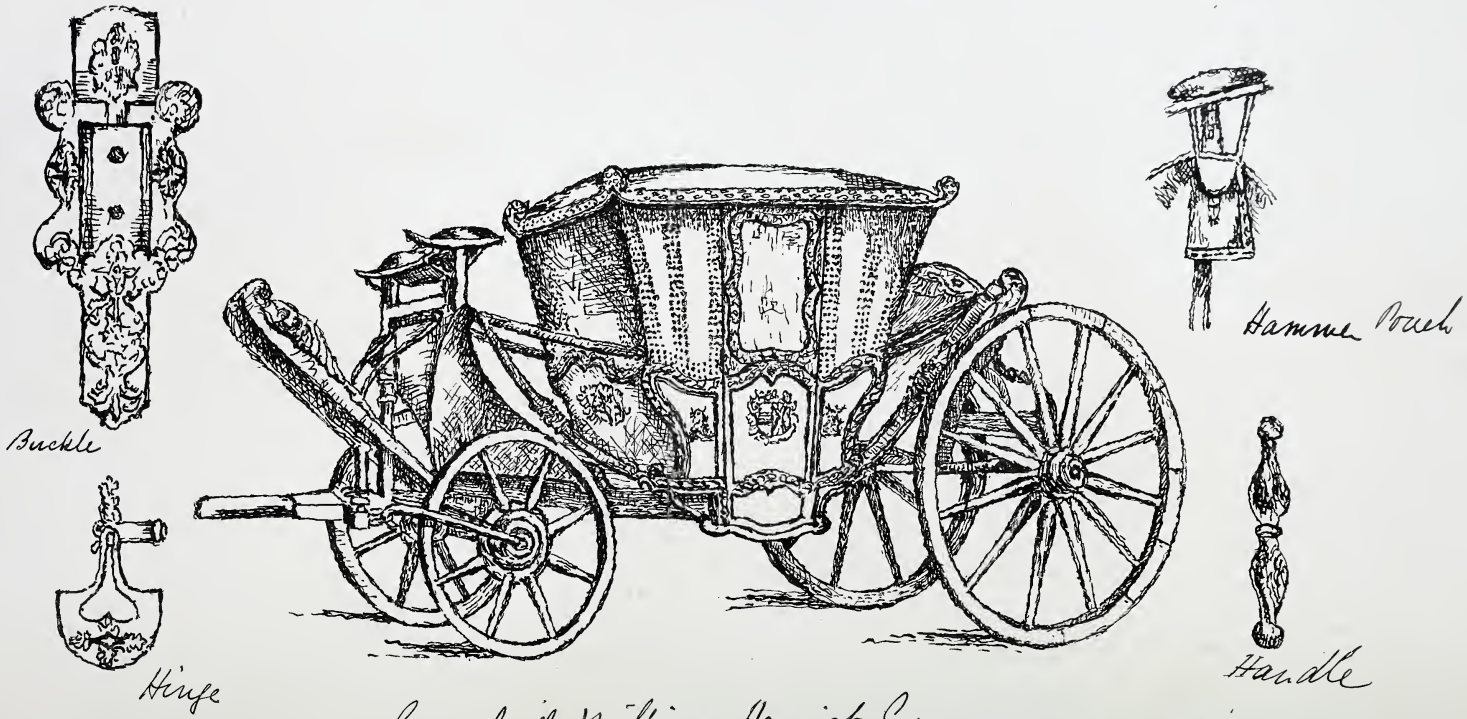
The following new members were elected :—

The Right Honourable Earl Ferrers, Staunton Harrold; The Right Honourable the Earl of Lanesborough, Swithland; The Duchess Sforza, Ragdale; T. C. D. Whitmore, Esq., Gumley Hall; H. Hughes, Esq., Tintern House, Leicester; G. Checkland, Esq., S. Albans; W. N. Reeve, Esq., Clerk of the Peace, Leicestershire. Honorary members: H. J. Toulmin, Esq., J.P.; Ridgeway Lloyd, Esq., both of S. Albans; James Neale, Esq., F.S.A. Presidents: The Right Honourable the Earl Ferrers; The Right Honourable the Earl of Lanesborough; Sir A. B. C. Dixie, Bart.; Major Mowbray; N. C. Curzon, Esq.

The following curiosities, &c., were exhibited :—

By Rev. J. H. Hill: Photographs of S. Albans Abbey.

By Mr. Hunt: a Roman jar found in excavations at Bow, Essex; a German version of the "Dance of Death," published at Basle in the latter part of the eighteenth century. Mr. Hunt remarked that the "Dance of Death," with its celebrated pictures, was painted by Hans Holbein, the famous German painter. This "March," or "Dance of Death," is popular enough in Germany even now, and in the middle ages was to be found painted on bridges, or walls. It represents "Death" piercing the warrior through his back as he comes home victorious from the battle field; leading the "Queen" to an open grave, as she returns from church; slaying the "King" upon his throne; hustling off the "Judge;" sitting upon the bed of the "Nun" in her cell; dragging the "Merchant" from his merchandise; in short, the "Pope" from all his power, and supposed infallibility, down to the "Blind Beggar" in the streets. The original pictures of the "Death Dance," are still to be seen at the Rathhaus, or Town Hall of Basle. The attempt made in by-gone days, in the town of Basle, to associate business advertisements with some moral



Coach of William Herrick Esq
Built 1740.

lesson, and to give them a religious cast, produced results sufficiently ridiculous and objectionable. Take two as instances:

THE PIG.

"On God I build my hopes of grace,
The Ancient Pig's my dwelling place."

THE SHIN OF BEEF.

"Wake, and repent your sins with grief,
I'm called the 'Golden Shin of Beef.'"

A peculiar custom of doubtful origin prevailed here till 1798, that of keeping all the town clocks one hour fast. Tradition ascribes it to the fact of a plot to deliver the town to an enemy being defeated by the clock striking the hour of *one* instead of *twelve*.

September 25th, 1876.

THE REV. J. H. HILL, F.S.A., in the chair.

The following gentlemen were elected members:—

Rev. John Edward Stocks, Vicar of Market Harborough; Rev. Octavius Glover, B.D., Emmanuel Rectory, Loughborough; William Winterton, Esq., Prebend Street, Leicester; Mr. Robert Michie, Midland Railway Station, Leicester.

The following antiquities, &c., were exhibited:—

By the CHAIRMAN: Photographs of S. Albans Abbey; chromo-lithograph of stained glass staircase window at Beaumanor; an engraving of the bridal coach, at Beaumanor, built for William Herrick, Esq., in 1740, and the following accounts relating to its construction:

To
Wm. Herrick, Esq., att Beau Mannor
In
Loughborough Bag.
Leicestershire.
28 OC.

London 8ber ye 28th 1740.

Dr Sir

I carry'd the arms Miss Gage sent to the Coach makers and the other Side is the Charge of the whole which I hope you'l like, I am sure I have done as if it had been my case and I dare say the man will ffinish it as it should be and at the time he promised.

* * * * * * * * * *

All friends here Joyn In Humble love to you & all friends and I am

Dr. Neighbour
Yrs, &c.
C. HARTOPP.

The Coach maker wants to know
the colour of the lining.

1740 An estimate of a Coach to be made for Wm. Harrick, Esq.

Octo: By E. Harlee	£.	s.	d.
To a new Coach to be made with the best Seasoned Timber, the Doors to be arched, the body to be neatly run, the ends of the bottom sides, Corner pillars, and asticks round the glasses to be Neatly carved, Colouring and varnishing the body olive colour, painting thereon a Sett of Shields, hightned in gold, and a Sett of armes, and Crests, covering the body with the best Neats leather, the Vallons whelted and Drove in Archess, to be lined with any colour'd cloth except Scarlett, a Seat Cloth ye same of the lining, a woosted triming to the inside, the Seats quilted and tufts to them, 2 door glasses and Canvasis in the Doors, also a strong set of main and Save Braces, a Sett of Cross and Collar Braces, a Neat Carriage Carved answerable to the body, and a Strong Sett of wheels, colouring the wheels bright red and olive colour, varnishing them with vermillion, gilding the shield, and painting the crest on the hind cross bar, and boxis under the inside seats, all to be completed in a workmanlike manner for Seventy three pounds ten shillings ..	73	10	0
To a new Sett of Splin trees, a Spear barr and Splin tree, a Drage Chain and Drage Staff, and Straps end buckles	1	16	0
To a Budget to hang under the Coachman's Seat, a hammer, a pair of pinchers, a Cold Chisell, 24 Clouts. 12 linspins, and hurters, and 200 of Clout Nailes	1	12	0
To 4 new Harness made with the best Neats leather, a brass plate on the edge of the housing, Crest housing plates, brass watering hooks, Starrs and Screwd rings to ye head stalls Double bard bitts and a Sett of Reins	12	0	0
To a large winscott Trunk to go between to the fore Standard plates, handles, and a lock to it	2	2	0
To a new Cover for the Coach made with fine barriss	1	5	0
	£92	5	0

Mr. Hill further exhibited a representation of the old key of Nosely Chapel. Three engravings by Ger Audran, 1674-8. Drawings of ancient and modern roads about Medbourne. Historia Romana, Aurelii Victoris, Amsterdam: the brothers Gaesbeck, 1670. Mastin's History of Naseby, 1818.

By Captain Whitby: Medals of the Dublin Agricultural Society, upon which that gentleman remarked:—"These medals are certainly not antique, but they take us back indirectly to people connected with this county long passed away. My late friend, George Lucas Nugent (born 1762) of Castle Richard, West Meath, was a benefactor to the agriculturists of that county by introducing pure breeds of cattle and sheep, which he obtained from the herd and flock of Mr. Bakewell, of Dishley, Leicestershire; he also purchased largely from the herds of Major Astley, father of the late Mr. Gough, of Kilworth, and also from Mr. Green, of Odstone. These were the cattle with white backs and very long horns. Fifty years ago many good daries were to be found in this and the adjoining counties of this breed; but fashion changes; now a long-horned cow is looked upon as a curiosity. You may travel very many miles in this district without seeing one. Mr. Nugent became most successful as an exhibitor of stock; this the many

prizes gained at the Dublin and other Irish Societies show. His silver medals were so numerous that he had a large punch bowl of very elegant design made of them. On one of my visits to him he gave me those I now exhibit. In the early part of his life he hunted in Leicestershire, making Hinckley his headquarters. I remember his telling me that he was dining one day with Dr. Chesire, the famous spinal doctor of that town. During dinner the doctor's services were required. He left the table and soon returned, bringing with him Mr. Wilberforce, who had brought one of his sons to place under his care."

By Mr. G. H. Nevinson: a bronze article from excavations in Bath Lane. Mr. Nevinson reported that a sewer is being constructed in Bath Lane at a depth of twenty feet from the roadway. A bed of concrete, composed of lime and finely-broken tiles, has been disclosed. It is in some places about a foot thick, and extends several yards. For about twenty feet the surface of it is quite smooth, and without any appearance of tiles having been laid upon it. Beneath a portion of this flooring there is a bed of black mould from four to five feet thick going down to the bottom of the trench, and resting on marl and gravel. The flooring is intersected by a rough foundation, apparently the angle of some building, one side being curved. Both sides of the floor, and one side of the foundation extend beyond the width of the trench. Close to the wall the bronze article exhibited to the meeting was discovered, five feet from the surface. It was part of a horse's bit of the late Celtic period, and similar in form to a perfect specimen found near Hull, and now preserved in the British Museum. The latter is ornamented with enamel, and was apparently used for a chariot horse, as the two sides are unlike, and the more ornamental one was probably outside. These bits, though of somewhat earlier date than pure Roman work, may have well been in use into Roman times.* Mr. Nevinson also

* Some time ago we described the excavations in Messrs. Rust's yard, S. Nicolas' Street. Here the ancient ditch or fosse was pierced which marked the western boundary of the early Roman town; the Jewry wall being a relic of the frowning mass of masonry which formed its inner edge. The outer edge was also marked by a massive stone wall, which was cut through at a depth of thirty-three feet, in driving a tunnel towards the river Soar. This fosse was doubtless filled up as the town grew, and buildings were erected between the western wall—which was probably in part pulled down—and the river. Of these buildings traces have lately been uncovered in making a deep sewer in Bath Lane. Here the made-earth was seen to be from ten to fourteen feet thick, resting on red marl. Thick walls of coarse masonry were found; one running parallel to the street, or north and south, and two others crossing this at right angles. At a depth of about nine feet a fine concrete floor was met with, made of lime, pounded tiles, small fragments of brick, and other material. This extended for twenty feet in length; but the sewer, being only five or six feet wide, did not permit of its exploration in any other direction. Its upper surface was extremely smooth and level. Beneath this floor a passage or conduit was discovered, leading in the direction of the river. Several Roman coins were found during the progress of the excavations, together with incised tiles, and

exhibited a copper token (halfpenny) of Joseph Lovett, of Mountsorrel, dated 1667, and another of James Lee, dated 1656.

By Mr. Hunt: Camel's tooth, found near the Dean's House, opposite Conway Bay, Llandudno; Roumanian powder flask and spoon made of horn; an old horseshoe, found at Old Ingarsby; ancient iron chest.

Mr. North, F.S.A., contributed the following Paper on

THE CHURCH GUILDS OF MELTON MOWBRAY.

In most parish churches there was, in pre-Reformation times, in addition to the high altar, one, if not more, minor altars. These generally stood at the eastern ends of the side aisles, against the nave pillars, or, in cruciform churches, along the eastern walls of the transepts. Their former position can still be traced by the remains of ancient lockers and by the piscinæ—more or less mutilated—which are, in almost innumerable instances still extant. Our parish churches, doubtless, in many cases owe some of their finest architectural features to the cause which called these altars into existence. It was desired by a wealthy private person, or by a company of less opulent ones associating themselves together as a fraternity or guild, to provide for the spiritual benefit of themselves and of their friends in this life and after death. This was to be effected—as was then thought—by the daily celebration of Mass, and by the occasional recitation of other Religious Offices by a priest or priests engaged for the purpose. To secure the payment of the necessary stipends, an endowment was generally made in the one case, and an annual sum raised by the members of the guild in the other. It also became necessary that an altar should be erected, usually in the parish church, at which these Offices could be said, and it was desirable that it should stand in such a position as not to interfere with the high altar, at which the parish Mass was sung. In large churches there would, in most cases, be no difficulty as to room, but in smaller country ones it was frequently necessary to erect a side aisle, at the eastern end of which the altar could stand, and which aisle became known as

pieces of the beautiful red Samian ware—one fragment of which bore the maker's name, "Titvronis, F."—also a curious bronze fragment which resembled in its intertwined circles the ornaments of the late Celtic period. These were secured by the ever watchful care of G. H. Nevinson, Esq., for the Town Museum, where they are now displayed. The purpose of the building thus uncovered is not easy of determination; but it appears highly probable that the concrete floor was part of the bath-room, whilst the conduit beneath might either be for the entrance or escape of water. If this be the case it is a remarkable fact, as the site of the Public Baths which the Corporation propose to erect here is distant but a few feet; the ancient and modern buildings being thus on the same spot.—*Leicester Chronicle.*

the chapel or chantry of the family or guild erecting it. It is quite unnecessary to point out examples. They are too numerous for many of them not to be well known. By existing records, too, we frequently know by whom the chantries and guilds formerly existing in different parishes were founded and supported. In some instances, however, where from any cause the guild or chantry priest was "disendowed" before the hands of Henry VIII. or Edward VI. were laid upon the sources of his stipend, no evidence is afforded by the public archives of the kingdom or by parochial records, and so the architectural indications already referred to in the parish church are the only evidences of the former existence therein of a private chantry or the guild altar. Until recently this was the case at Melton Mowbray. During successive reparations in the noble church of that parish, when the walls of its fine transepts were gradually denuded of the thick coats of plaster and colour-wash with which successive generations of churchwardens had covered them, the marks of the former existence of several altars were discovered. There were clearly five or six, at least, of these minor altars in Melton Church, and the eastern wall of the south transept was the position chosen for several of them. As some of these architectural features were, until recently, hidden from view, so the only local documents which could throw even a faint glimmer of light upon the ancient altars and guilds to which they formerly belonged were also lost to sight for very many years. I have upon several occasions referred to the manuscripts discovered a few years ago in Melton, which so much illumine its history of three hundred years ago. I find in those documents some information which may be worth collecting, as affording a clue to the origin of some of the minor altars to which I have referred as formerly existing in its parish church.

With regard to two of these the references are very brief; they occur in the churchwardens' accounts for the year 1549, thus:—

"Rd. of Bartyll Newesowme for ij pecs of woode of Sainte Nicholus aulter ..... xiiij*d.*
"Pd. to rogr Gervys for takying downe th alter in the vestre* ..... xx*d.*"

Two other altars belonged to the Guilds of Our Lady and Saint John. Although I find no entries relating to the latter altar in the church, there is abundant evidence as to the existence of the Guild, and which will be referred to presently. S. Mary's altar is incidentally alluded to in an ancient, and very curious

* There was sometimes an altar in the sacristy or vestry of cathedrals at which minor clerks or suffragans were ordained; and young priests learned to celebrate mass. (Walcott's *Sac. Arch.*, p. 523.)

inventory of "Sylvyr Juells of the churchys" already contributed by me to the Transactions of this Society. It is there noted:—

> "Itm̃ more there ys a chest standyng by Our Lady's auter wher in ys dyvers reconyng and wrytyng wt evydence whyche belongyng to the church and to bothe the gelds whyche were nessyssary to be loked upon substanstally wt dyvers of the honest men of the prshe for the intent yt hett may be knowen in what statte the church wt the gelds stands in."

The chest was apparently placed by the side of the altar as a sacred, and therefore safe, place. I find nothing more relating to this altar until the year 1547, when the churchwardens charged tenpence for "Coloryng ye pulpit and ye poor master chest and ye leiff of ye table of ye lady altr"—probably a picture or reredos at its back. And, once more, we note its destruction in 1553-4, when, after selling the high altar case, the churchwardens credit their account:—

> "Itm̃ Recevid of mastr gyles for or ladyes case and bords ..... xiij*s.* iiij*d.*

In the bell chamber still hangs a bell inscribed "Beata Maria," which was called by the churchwardens "Our Lady bell," but whether it was used for the services at this altar, or for the ringing of the *Angelus*, I cannot say.

On the 15th of December, 1545, commissions were issued to examine into the state and value of the lands belonging to Chantries and Guilds. Injunctions were sent "to the parson, vicar, curate, chaunter, priests, churchwardens, and two of the most honest persons" in each parish were such fraternities existed requiring from them an exact return showing the titles, statutes, possessions, and rental of the Guild or Chantry, and the uses, abuses, or misuses connected with the same. Also specially enquiring whether any property had been sold or otherwise transferred since the 4th February, in the twenty-seventh year of the King's (Henry VIII.) reign. Many of these returns exist. The death of Henry VIII. appears to have stayed further proceedings with regard to Guilds and Chantries. The respite was, however, short, for soon after Edward VI. had ascended to the throne a Bill for giving their possessions to the King was brought into the House of Lords, and (notwithstanding considerable opposition from the bishops) passed into law. Visitors or Commissioners were sent to inquire into the state of the different fraternities, and to arrange for the sale of their possessions.

These Visitors were in Leicester in the year 1547-8, when the Mayor—as was then usual—regaled them with wine.*

Although I cannot trace the actual visit of these Visitors to Melton, the effect of the then recent Act is apparent in a conveyance or charter endorsed "Spyttyll Chappelle," now extant. This instrument, dated 29th September 2 Ed. VI., after the usual salutations, recites that the most excellent Prince and our sovereign Lord Edward the Sixth, &c., &c., by his letters patent, bearing date the 6th day of August, in the second year of his reign, did for a certain sum of money grant to William Gyles and one Michael Purefey, all that messuage or tenement named the "Chappell" House, otherwise "the Spyttell Chappell," and one close of land with its appurtenances, then or late in the tenure or occupation of Denis Shephard, situate in Melton Mowbray, late belonging to the late Guild of S. Mary, of Melton Mowbray; then after reciting that by a deed, dated 8th of August in the same year, the said Michael Purefey had assigned his share of the property to the said William Gyles, the document proceeds to grant and confirm for "a certain sum of money," to Christopher Draper, citizen and ironmonger of London, his heirs and assigns for ever, the above-mentioned messuage or tenement and close of land. An endorsement shows that possession of the premises was delivered to the said Christopher Draper, on the 18th of October, in the same year, in the presence of twelve witnesses, whose names are given.

The "certain sum of money" mentioned as the consideration in the above recited deed gives no clue as to the value then placed upon the property therein mentioned as formerly belonging to the Guild of S. Mary, in Melton Mowbray. We, however, trace its passage into the hands of the King, and its being granted by him to two persons who quickly transferred it to Christopher Draper. This holder—no doubt looking upon his title as precarious—very soon entered into negociations with Nicolas Cowlishaw, of Melton, to sell this property to him on behalf of the town. The transaction is thus traced in the accounts of the Townwardens for the year 1549:—

Ao. 1549.

"Itm̃ paid by Nicolas Collishaw to Cristor. Draper of london, the xxi day of Novembre ffor a pseill of land with apprtnances lately called the Chappill house in Melton bought to the Town of Melton use ..... xxj*li.*

"Itm̃ pd to Mr. Cartlyn ffor makyng the writynge ffor assurance ..... xj*s.* viiij*d.*

* See North's *Chronicle of S. Martin's Church*, p. 230-234.

"Itm̃ pd to Nicolas Colishawe ffor his charges to london and abowt the seid bussinesse .....xx*s*."

Thus this property was added to the Town Estate.

As before said the Injunctions sent out in 1545 specially inquired whether any property formerly belonging to chantries and guilds had been sold or otherwise transferred since 4th February, 27 Henry VIII. This was intended to check the seizure by private persons, or by public bodies, of property which the Government intended to appropriate to its own benefit. Notwithstanding the efforts so made to secure all the property of the dissolved guilds and chantries, lands in many places were quietly taken possession of by persons dwelling in the locality. Property so appropriated was called by the Government "Concealed lands," and many disputes and much litigation followed in numerous instances between the agents of the Government and the then holders, as to the legal title of the latter to their possessions. Disputes of this kind were carried on for several years with regard to certain houses and lands in the parish of Melton Mowbray, the records of which throw some light upon our present subject.

There is a document existing which shows that an Inquisition was held on the 16th of August, in the eighth year of Queen Elizabeth, before two Commissioners,* when evidence upon oath was given to the effect that there were of late within the town of Melton Mowbray two guilds called by the names of Saint John and Saint Mary, otherwise "S. John hys guilde and our Ladies Guylde," and that divers messuages, lands, tenements, &c., &c., within the parish and fields of Melton did belong and appertain to the guilds aforesaid, and were parcels of the possessions of the same: and further that certain lands called "S. John's Wonges," lying within the parish of Melton, and one meadow called "Our Ladyes meadow," within the same parish also belonged to the guilds aforesaid. The Commissioners found that by reason of a certain statute for the dissolving and determining of chantries, guilds, &c., published in the first year of Edward VI., these lands, &c., ought to devolve to the Crown, but that they had been concealed and unjustly detained from the Crown from the time of the said Act, and were still detained, and that the clear annual value was £5. 6s. 8d. The town at that time had possession of the property in dispute, and applied the proceeds to the payment of the schoolmasters, the repair of highways and bridges, &c., &c., and, notwithstanding the report of the Commissioners, possession appears to have remained in its hands, for eleven years subse-

* The Townwardens for the year 1566-7 charge:—
Itm̃ allowed Hughe Edwarde his wife for a dyner when the Commissioners satte here aboute the Towne land and for horse meate for the justices horses, and Mr. Hunts, as appith by her bill ..... xlij*s*. vj*d*.

quently the dispute was renewed. A complaint was made that the lands, &c., were "concealed lands," and an action was brought against the tenants calling upon them to prove the title of the town. Amongst the questions asked was "Have the profits bene imployed to the use of a brotherhood or gylde wthin fyve yeares before the parliament holden in the fyrst yeare of the reign of the late King Edward the sixte?" and we gather that the priests were called "priests of S. John and our Ladie otherwise called morrowe masse preists and eight o'clocke preists." The whole proceeding, however, is worth relating, and is thus epitomised from documents now preserved amongst the Melton manuscripts:—

John Marsh, of London, Esq., and William Marsh, his son, having made a complaint against Richard Trafforde, William Lacye, Robert Oldham, and William Trigge that they had become possessed of certain lands and tenements in Melton Mowbray, called in consequence "concealed lands," which had formerly belonged to certain guilds or brotherhoods called S. John's Guild and the Guild of the Blessed Virgin, and which ought to have gone to the Crown at the dissolution of guilds, a commission was opened at Leicester on the 19th day of April, 19th Elizabeth, before Kenelm Digby and George Villiers, Esqrs., when witnesses were heard on both sides.

The depositions of these witnesses are preserved amongst the Melton Papers, and from them is gathered the following information as to the guilds.

For complainants:—

Christopher Whitehead, of Denton, Co. Lincoln, said he knew Sir John Stevens, and that he served a place in the church there (*i.e.* Melton) called "Our Ladies Aultar," and that he was called "Our Ladie Preste" but "how longe it is since he knowes not, and that he had foure poundes wages paied by yeare by the wardens of the towne but how it was levied he knowes not."

Henry Tallis, of Melton Mowbray, said that "Crofer Whiteheade and Willm Carver were wardens of the said Guildes, and that it is aboute eighte and twentie years ago (as he thinks) since they were wardens there and they were the laste wardens there." He goes on to say that there were two or three little wongs in Melton fields belonging to the Guild, other pieces of land elsewhere, a house in his own occupation, which he purchased of the Queen, and eight or nine houses standing together in a street between the "Shepe Crosse" and the "Spittall Chappell," which also belonged to the Guild.

Robert Parker said there were in Melton "two Guildes, one called Our Ladies Guild and the other called S. John's Guild."

Bartholomew Wormwell said Sir John Stevens had £5. 6s. 8d. yearly, and that the Guilds were dissolved thirty-five or thirty-six years ago.

For defendants :—

William Waringe said the priests were discharged in the reign of Henry VIII. about thirty-seven years ago, and did not there say Mass since to his knowledge. He said the Guild possessed no lands. The priests were paid by the town wardens; but certain lands did belong to the town for the reparation of the bridge and amendment of the highways and repair of the church and to the use of the school.

William Lane said he had known the Grammar School for fifty years; that there had been fifty scholars therein, but of late about 100 scholars there; that the land, &c., in dispute had been applied to the support of the school. He mentioned "one house called the Spittall, which the townesmen thereof purchased of Alderman Draper, of London." He said that Wm. Brookesby and others made a feoffment to one Thomas Posterne and others of all the said lands, to the use that the profits and rents thereof should be employed to the maintenance of the said school, and repair of bridges and highways there. He also tried to damage the witnesses for the complainants, by saying that Tallis, Parker, and Chambers were men of "evill fame," and that Tallis "is a drunkard and vehemently suspect for stealing of a Hogge," and that Parker "is a drunkard," and that Chambers "is a drunkard and did steale Iron out of Melton Church Steple."

This action was brought against the defendants as tenants under the town. That the town obtained the verdict is evident from an ancient list of documents belonging to Melton in which I find "An exempl of a verdict 20 Eliz.: A verdict against Mershe for concealed lande."

This is no doubt a sample of what was going on at that time in many places, and which as giving a slight illustration of some of the proceedings of those days, may not be altogether beneath our notice; at any rate those of us who know the grand church of Melton Mowbray will not take a less interest in some of its mutilated architectural features now we have become better acquainted with a few of the circumstances to which they point.

November 27th, 1876.

The Rev. J. H. Hill, F.S.A., in the chair.

The following gentlemen were elected members :—

The Hon. Harry Tyrwhit Wilson, Keythorpe Hall; the Rev. Canon Yard, The Confratery, Leicester; Richard Twining, Esq., Bitteswell; the Rev. G. Salt, Woodhouse Eaves; the Rev. W. C.

Hodgson, Swepstone Rectory; the Rev. H. Twells, Waltham Rectory; C. K. Fisher, Esq., Hill Crest, Market Harborough; the Rev. W. H. Disney, Hinckley Vicarage; the Rev. John Bird, Walton Rectory; the Rev. H. L. Watson, Sharnford Rectory; and F. T. Mercer, Esq., Market Harborough.

The Hon. Harry T. Wilson was also elected a President of the Society.

Mr. J. Hunt exhibited some fragments of Samian ware, some tesseræ, and a portion of a vase, all found in excavating in Silver Street, Leicester, for the new Opera House.

THE LEICESTERSHIRE ARCHITECTURAL & ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY, 1877.

Patrons.

His Grace the Duke of Rutland, K.G.
The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Peterborough.

Presidents.

The Worshipful the Mayor of Leicester.
The Right Honourable the Earl Howe.
The Right Honourable the Earl of Denbigh.
The Right Honourable Earl Ferrers.
The Right Honourable the Earl of Gainsborough.
The Right Honourable Lord de Clifford.
The Right Honourable the Earl of Lanesborough.
The Right Honourable the Lord John Manners, M.P.
Sir G. H. Beaumont, Baronet.
Sir William de Capell Brooke, Baronet.
Sir A. B. C. Dixie, Baronet.
Sir Frederick T. Fowke, Baronet.
Sir Arthur Grey Hazlerigg, Baronet.
Sir Henry St. John Halford, Baronet.
Sir Geoffrey Palmer, Baronet.
The Honourable Harry Tyrwhit Wilson.
The Venerable the Archdeacon of Leicester.
Edward Bouchier Hartopp, Esquire.
Major Wollaston.
N. T. Curzon, Esquire.
Edward Finch Dawson, Esquire.
William Unwin Heygate, Esquire, M.P.
Major F. Palmer.
Major Mowbray.
Major Freer.
H. L. Powys-Keck, Esquire.
T. T. Paget, Esquire.
H. J. Grieveson, Esquire.

Committee.

The Patrons.
The Presidents.
All Rural Deans (being Members).
All Professional Architects (being Members).
Thomas Agar, Esq.
The Rev. C. W. Belgrave.
The Rev. Canon Burfield.
Alfred Ellis, Esq.
The Rev. T. Farebrother.
The Rev. J. H. Hill, F.S.A.
John Hunt, Esq.
Thomas Ingram, Esq.
Colonel Knight.
The Rev. W. H. Marriott.
The Rev. W. B. Moore.
Fred. Morley, Esq.
G. C. Neale, Esq.
G. H. Nevinson, Esq.
T. Nevinson, Esq.
James Thompson, Esq., F.R.H.S.
John Wade Wartnaby, Esq.
Captain Whitby.
The Rev. Canon Wilkes.

Honorary Local Secretaries.

Market Harborough District.
The Rev J. H. Hill, F.S.A., Cranoe Rectory.

Lutterworth District.
The Rev. A. Pownall, F.S.A., South Kilworth Rectory.

Melton Mowbray District.
(Vacant.)

Hinckley District.
The Rev. Ernest Tower, Earl's Shilton.

Honorary Corresponding Member for Coventry.

William George Fretton, Esq., F.S.A., Coventry.

Honorary Secretaries of the Society.

George C. Bellairs, Esq., Leicester. (*Corresponding.*)

Thomas North, Esq., F.S.A., The Bank, Leicester. (*Editorial and Financial.*)

S. Bull, Esq., Leicester.
(*Minute.*)

Auditor.

Captain Whitby.

THE ANNUAL MEETING

of the Society was held in the Town Library, Guild Hall, Leicester, on Monday, 29th January, 1877.

January 29th, 1877.

The Rev. J. H. Hill, F.S.A., in the chair.

The following

REPORT

for the past year was read :—

The Committee of the Leicestershire Architectural and Archæological Society begs to present the Twenty-second Annual Report of its proceedings.

Whilst the loss of a few members by death and otherwise during the past year has to be regretted, the Committee can congratulate the Society upon a considerable accession to its numbers.

The Annual Summer Meeting, held at S. Albans, in conjunction with our friends of the Northamptonshire Society, was very agreeable and successful. The grand Abbey Church, of course, formed the principal object of attraction and remark. Its architectural history, and its arrangements, were fully explained and dilated upon by Sir G. G. Scott, R.A., the Rev. O. W. Davys, the Rev. H. Fowler, Mr. James Neale, and others.

The excursion to *Leighton Buzzard*, *Dunstable*, *Luton*, *Wheathampstead*, and *Hatfield* fully met the anticipations of the members present. The visit to Hatfield especially, with its many attractions, was a source of much enjoyment.

The bi-monthly meetings during the year were fairly well attended, and the Papers read were of an interesting local character.

The Publications of the Society were, as usual, placed in your hands. The Transactions of our Society comprised, in part, an illustrated account of the ancient Leicester glass, now in the possession of this Society. The completion of the description of the glass, with many illustrations, will appear in the next "part" of the Transactions, which is already in the hands of the printer.

So rapidly has the work of church restoration been pushed forward during late years in Leicestershire, as in all parts of the country, that there are comparatively few churches which have not been, more or less, in the hands of the architect and the builder. Indeed, so much has been doing, that it has lately been the province of a Society like this rather to urge conservation than renovation, to fear that a laudable desire to repair "waste places" should not be duly tempered with a reverent care for what could be preserved of ancient work, whether in the structural portion of our churches, or in their furniture and accessories. Too much care of that kind cannot be exercised, and your Committee rejoice to think that architects generally are daily becoming more alive to its importance. No architect, with a love for his profession, would like to blot out a paragraph in a page of its history, which he certainly does when he recommends and carries out the unnecessary destruction of any portion of an ancient edifice. And although some of the architectural accessories existing in our ancient churches are now, it may be thought, of no practical use, still as illustrations of observances now perhaps obsolete, of customs long since dropped, they are of great value to the student of manners in times when religious customs and pageants made up so much of the everyday life of the people.

There have been two churches in Leicestershire reopened after restoration during the past year, in both of which your Committee believe a true conservative spirit has guided the architects and the promoters of the works. Perhaps no two churches

had suffered more from various causes, and more needed the skilful treatment of the architect than those of *Glen Magna* and *Gumley*. The former had evidently suffered much from fire, and had been so modernized that scarcely any of its original beauty remained. Some interesting features, however, of the Norman and of the Early English periods were discovered, and have been carefully preserved. The main body of the church has been rebuilt or repaired with great care, all ancient features being conserved, and an entirely new chancel, with organ recess and vestry erected. The parish church of Gumley was in a worse condition even than that of Glen, for whilst the main body of the fabric was thoroughly out of repair, the chancel (built about fifty years ago) was most unsatisfactory in every way. The whole has been carefully restored, and a new chancel built on the foundations of the original one discovered during the progress of the works. These two churches will repay a visit from any member of this Society, and your Committee hope that as they were inspected a few years ago during one of the summer excursions, so they may ere long be again visited by this Society, and seen in their new dress and more comely condition.

The fine tower of the grand church of *Melton Mowbray* is now being repaired, under the care of Sir G. G. Scott, R.A.; and, in Leicester, the new churches of *S. Saviour* and *S. Leonard* are progressing towards completion.

One work of architectural and antiquarian interest has been carried out in Leicester during the past year, which calls for more than a merely passing remark, and brief notice: that is, the renovation and refitting of the chancel of the *Chapel of Trinity Hospital*, in Leicester.

A renovation of this Chapel, which had long been in a very unsatisfactory state, has been commenced during the past year under the care, and at the cost, (aided by a few contributions,) of one of our members, Mr. Thomas Nevinson. His liberal offer to restore the chancel having been gladly accepted, he, acting as his own architect, at once commenced the works upon the structure itself. These comprised the opening of the original oak timber roof which had long been hidden from view by an under-drawn ceiling; the cleaning and repairing of all the stone work; a new tile floor, and the introduction of two new windows in accordance with the original design of the Chapel, in the place of two modern ones in wooden frames; and the transformation of what was formerly used as a mortuary, on the north side of the chancel, into the vestry, which was much needed. In this vestry has been inserted a two-light Early English window (*circa* 1250) which formerly belonged to an ancient hospital at Ashby Folville, in this county; and which Mr. Nevinson secured when the hospital there was destroyed many years ago.

Turning to the furniture and fittings of the chancel, many things are found which are of considerable interest to the local antiquary, and a record of which ought certainly to be preserved.

The seats, placed stall-wise, were brought from the chapel of the ancient Hospital of William of Wyggeston, which, until lately, stood on the west side of S. Martin's Church. They are of late Perpendicular work and very good of their kind, massive, with rich Perpendicular tracery on the ends and the fronts, and with a very bold moulding on the top: the backs of these seats are formed of particularly good linen-pattern panels brought from various parts of the same demolished hospital, and from the master's house, until recently contiguous thereto.

The pulpit, also from the same chapel, is composed of linen-pattern panels, which, however, are not so good as those at the back of the seats.

The altar rails are made out of some good late Perpendicular screen-work, which, until recently, formed part of the parclose round the font in All Saints' Church, Leicester, for which it had been adapted, most probably, from the rood-screen there, or from some side screen in that church.

The credence is formed partly out of old carved oak, found some years ago under the floor of the pews in S. Mary's Church, Leicester, and partly from carved oak, from Wyggeston's Hospital.

The floor tiles placed within the altar rails were found in various parts of the restored chapel. They are varied in design; several sets of four, form the arms of Henry, Duke of Lancaster, the founder of the hospital, in 1371.

The altar table, which is entirely new, is of oak, in the Perpendicular style, to accord with the seating; it is, however, much richer in design.

It will be seen that Mr. Nevinson has not only carried out the work with his

usual care and liberality as regards the structure, but that the chancel really forms what may be termed an architectural museum of no mean local value.

This record of so good a renovation would be incomplete without a notice of the ancient armour which has for so long, and is still, suspended from the walls of the chancel.

There are six suits, each consisting of headpiece (a morion or sallett) gorget, breast and back piece, and a halberd; and one suit consisting of helmet with visor, gorget, breast and back plates, and defensive armour for the arms, with gauntlets and sword and buckler. This armour probably belonged originally to the town watch or patrol, as it has the town arms painted upon the buckler and upon the staves of the halberds. It appears to be of the date of Elizabeth, but has been altered and repaired at various times, and notably during the Commonwealth. The hilt of the sword is modern. The gorget or buckler is old—of the date of Elizabeth or earlier; it was not even then used in warfare; the heads of the halberds are old, but some of the staves have been renewed, and would appear to have been used much later than the defensive armour. Indeed, halberds were used until comparatively recent times, on certain occasions—in processions, at proclamations, &c., &c. The Town Records would probably give information respecting this armour; it is only noticed here to record its preservation.

In the earlier years of this Society your Committee occasionally reported with satisfaction the advance in domestic architecture, as shown in the erection in Leicester of a single office or warehouse in a more pleasing style than that previously adopted for such buildings in this town. Nothing can show more strongly the rapidly increased commercial prosperity of Leicester during the past few years, than the extent and costliness of its new buildings, for commercial and for public purposes. A record of these—even were such a record within the province of your Committee—would be almost impossible. It may suffice to refer to the new Municipal Buildings, lately completed at a cost of about £42,000.; a new School of Art in connection with the Town Museum, which has cost about £7,000.; a new Banking House, of elaborate design and large proportions, which is said to have cost upwards of £25,000.; several new Board and Voluntary Schools, Wyggeston's Hospital Schools, Warehouses, Offices, and other buildings, many of which claim attention from their imposing elevations and artistic treatment. All these show that even in the short existence of this Society, how great a change has taken place in Leicester, and what scope has been given to the architect for the exercise of his professional skill, and for the display of his artistic taste.

As a mine with constant working will in time be exhausted, so we may expect the subsoil of modern Leicester to partially cease being a mine of Roman relics, which it has been for many years, now that so much of it has been excavated during building operations. From time to time, however, discoveries of interest are made, one of which of recent date has to be recorded. In the month of December last, during excavations in Silver Street, on the site of the new Opera House, a pavement of tesseræ was found, at the depth of about twelve feet below the present level of the ground. The tesseræ were of somewhat rough make, and apparently formed the floor—about twenty feet by fourteen feet—of a room of secondary importance. Strewn about this were found several pieces of Roman pottery, various in kind. Portions of an *amphora* or jar, and of several *ampullæ* or bottles of whitish earthenware, fragments of Samian ware embossed with various patterns, one or two smaller jars, nearly perfect, and a few Roman coins, much corroded, were taken up. Earthenware of a later date was also found, as also an Edwardian coin, and a seventeenth century tradesman's token. It will be remembered that Roman relics have been found at various times between this spot and S. Martin's Church; indeed under that church extensive Roman remains were found when the tower was rebuilt. Further remains of the foundations of the Roman building now uncovered were found when the earth below the contiguous back premises of Messrs. Howcutt and Barwell was removed some years ago. All these discoveries show that a Roman building or buildings of considerable magnitude stood in the locality indicated, at a time when it probably was the main thoroughfare running east and west through the Roman city. These relics are in the possession of the owner of the property, Mr. T. T. Paget, a member of this Society. It will also be remembered that Roman relics, found in excavating in Bath Lane, Leicester, were shown at the September meeting by Mr. G. H. Nevinson.

In conclusion, your Committee would bespeak the co-operation of all the members of the Society during the present year. Something may be done by all, much by many, to further the interests of the Society, and to add to the attractions and usefulness of its proceedings.

The following

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

for the year 1876 was next read as follows:—

THE LEICESTERSHIRE ARCHITECTURAL AND ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

TREASURER'S STATEMENT, 1876.

RECEIPTS.		£.	s.	d.
1876.				
Jan. 1.	Balance in hand ..	24	8	5
Dec. 31.	Subscriptions and arrears received during the year ..	100	0	6
		£124	8	11

PAYMENTS.		£.	s.	d.
1876.				
Jan.	Grant for Transactions	35	0	0
„	"Church Bells of Leicestershire" ..	0	12	6
„	Expenses attending Meeting at S. Albans	4	9	10
„	Williamson for Volume	35	2	9
„	Clarke, Printing, Postage, and Delivery of Publications ..	7	2	8
„	Rent, One Year ..	5	0	0
„	Advertising	6	13	7
„	Archæological Institute	1	1	0
„	Sundries	1	10	0
Dec.	Balance in hand ..	27	16	7
		£124	8	11

1877.
Jan. 1. Balance in hand, £27. 16s. 7d.

Examined and found correct,
(Signed) ALFRED WHITBY.

The Annual Report being adopted and the Statement of Accounts passed,

VOTES OF THANKS were unanimously passed to the Worshipful the Mayor for the use of the Town Library for the meetings of the Society; to the President, Members of Committee, Honorary Officers, and the Chairman, for their services during the past year: and a special vote of thanks was awarded to Mr. North, F.S.A., for his elaborate and interesting Report of the proceedings of the Society during the year just closed.

RESOLVED that the same Committee and Honorary Officers be re-elected for the current year: that the Rev. A. M. Rendell, Rector of Coston, be requested to act as Local Honorary Secretary for the Melton Mowbray district.

The following gentlemen were elected members of the Society:

The Rev. W. H. Sandon, Vicar of Stanford-cum-Swinford; and the Rev. W. M. Croome, Vicar of Syston.

The following antiquities, &c., were exhibited:

By the Chairman: A plan showing the position of the ancient Roman pavement, recently discovered near Medbourne Bridge, Leicestershire. A volume of maps by Speed.

By Mr. J. Hunt, for Mr. J. Spencer; A leaden seal or *Bulla*. On the obverse were, as usual, the heads of S. Peter and S. Paul; on the reverse the name of Pope Innocent the Third.

By Mr. J. Hunt, for Jas. Bouskell, Esq.: A bill of acquittance to John Manners, of Nether Haddon, by Francis Hastings, of Bosworth, in right of his wife, Dame Maude Vernon, 1583. Amount £215. 14s. 2d.

By Mr. J. Hunt: Antique inkstand in the form of a ship.

The following letter relating to the excavations in Bath Lane, referred to by Mr. Nevinson at the last meeting, was received from Mr. E. L. Stephens, the Borough Surveyor:

"*To the President of the Leicestershire Architectural and Archæological Society.*

"Leicester, January 29th, 1877.

"Sir,—In excavating for the construction of a sewer in the Bath Lane, Leicester, we came upon walls and other remains, at a great depth below the present surface of the road; in fact, about level with what was the water line of the river previous to its being dammed up for mill purposes, and they are evidently portions of the outworks of ancient Leicester. I have had a sketch made in plan and section, showing things as we found them, which I hope will be acceptable to the Society.

"I remain, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

"E. L. Stephens,

"Borough Surveyor."

Votes of thanks were passed to Mr. Stephens for the excellent plan presented to the Society.

March 26th, 1877.

Mr. G. H. Nevinson in the chair.

The following gentlemen were elected members:

Hussey Packe, Esq., Prestwold Hall, High Sheriff of Leicestershire; Sir Archdale Palmer, Bart., Wanlip; Rev. Thomas B. Hill, Stonesby, Melton Mowbray; Rev. Franklin Tonkin, Thurlaston

Rectory; Rev. Lewis Clayton, S. Margaret's, Leicester; Rev. Francis William Robinson, S. Peter's, Leicester: Rev. Herbert E. Turner, Sheepshed Rectory; Rev. R. Trousdale, Pool House, Groby; Rev. F. H. Richardson, Belgrave; and Rev. Philip Deedes, Nether Broughton Rectory.

The following articles were exhibited:

By Mr. Wartnaby: A Persian painted cloth representing an elephant ridden by a royal person, &c.

By the Rev. J. H. Hill, F.S.A., Cranoe: Fossil remains and pottery, found in Burrow Hill.

By Mr. Weatherhead: The following curiosities explained by that gentleman thus:—"(1) A good example of a powder horn (portion of stag's antler), bearing date 1566, and the initials G.B. in an oval loop. Engraved on the antler is an escutcheon—Chevron, two stars of six points, heart, horse, cinquefoil, and crescent. Surrounding this escutcheon is a floriated device, with three loops. At the bottom is engraved a motto (in French) ENCOYRES PLUS, on a scroll.—(2) A Roman quern or hand-mill, formed out of a conglomerate (cemented by a siliceous paste) known to geologists as 'pudding stone.' It was discovered at Sutton, in the Isle of Ely. It is composed of consolidated gravels. In breccias the fragments are more or less angular; in conglomerates they are rounded and water-worn, and may vary from pebbles the size of a pea to boulders half a ton weight. This conglomerate is heavy, compact, and exceedingly hard, and admirably adapted for the purpose required, viz., pounding corn. Out of the various examples of Roman querns to be found in our Museum, I only trace one small portion, found in Buttclose Lane in 1859, formed out of this conglomerate; the usual stone employed being a kind of millstone grit. Two examples of sections are herewith exhibited, as illustrative of the beautiful polish which can be produced by the skilful art of the lapidary."

By Captain Whitby: A photograph of the Rathhaus of Wernigerode, at the foot of the Hartz mountains, belonging exclusively to the Counts of Stolberg.

The following remarks were read by Captain Whitby:—"I was looking the other day at a number of German photographic views, and among them was the one I now exhibit, which took my fancy so much that I wrote to a friend of mine, Dr. Jacobs, an antiquary, and librarian to the Counts of Stolberg, asking him to tell me something about the place. His remarks in reply to my inquiries I will read if I may be allowed to do so:—'With all my heart I will try to accomplish your desires, giving some intelligence about our pretty Rathhaus, a building indeed of little, but very convenient and happily invented, proportions. Its former destination and name was that of theatrum or playhouse (in the older Saxon dialect, after a document of the year 1427, Selhûs). But the word playhouse is not to be understood as a stage for plays or public

spectacles, but as a privileged centre for all sorts and kinds of public business, and meetings in earnest, or joke, or pleasure. Of course there were to be found in this building shops to lay out clothes and other merchandise. Then there was a great hall, properly called Spêlsaal, where the Counts of Wernigerode, in the middle age, judged the causes between their knights and citizens, and where, especially on Shrove Tuesday, they banqueted and danced with them. Only two years before the extinction of this old family in 1429—the year in which succeeded the Counts of Stolberg, yet flourishing now-a-days—Count Henry of Wernigerode, the last of his line, made, on April 15th, 1427, in a document on parchment, yet existing, with his seal in yellow wax, and published by me in our Archæological Journal for 1868—a present of this house, with all its appurtenances, till then belonging to him, to the town and citizens of Wernigerode, with the only restriction that he, his heirs and successors, might make use of it for dancing with his knights and burghers, and arrange there the banquet in the time fasting (carnival, Shrove Tuesday), and to pronounce sentence in it. This same house was then the only privileged centre of public amusements, the only wine and beer cellar and tavern. Already, in the above-mentioned presenting document, from the year 1427, it is provided that the Spelhûs might be enlarged and restored. This restoration, or rather fundamental reconstruction, took place between 1494 and 1498, and to the beginning of the fifteenth [sixteenth ?] century. The architect of this now far-renowned edifice was a simple citizen of Wernigerode, called Thomas Hillborch, known in the history of architecture only by this masterpiece. His name is only to be found on the Rathhaus itself, and then with his family in some documents of the archives of this town, and in my charterbook of the Abbey of Alsenberg.'" Captain Whitby concluded by urging the restoration of the Guild Hall, Leicester.

May 28*th*, 1877.

The Rev. J. H. Hill, F.S.A., in the chair.

The following antiquities, &c., were exhibited:

By Mr. W. J. Freer: A medal about 150 years old, showing on one side the head of a droll, with cap and bells, which, turned upside down, represents the head of a cardinal, with the motto "Sapientes aliquando stulti." On the reverse, the head of a Pontiff, which, turned over, represents the evil one, circumscribed by a Latin motto.

By the Rev. J. H. Hill: Prints of two altar-tombs in Exton Church; a small pen and ink drawing by the exhibitor of Richard Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, copied from the Cotton MS.; a large pen and ink drawing, by the same, of S. Paul preaching before the Britons, after Mortimer; 2 vols. folio, being MS. of Goscote Hundred, with additions by the Rev. J. H. Hill; 1 vol. folio, being MS. of the history of Exton, Rutlandshire, with illustrations, also by the Rev. J. H. Hill.

The following letter from Mr. North relative to the late Mr. James Thompson, F.R.H.S., was read by the Chairman:—

"*To the Chairman of the Leicestershire Architectural and Archæological Society.*

"2, Southgrove, Ventnor, I.W.,
"24th May, 1877.

"My Dear Sir,

"I have just received intelligence of the death of our friend and colleague, Mr. James Thompson, one of the founders of this Society, and I feel sure the members present at the bi-monthly meeting on Monday next will not like to separate without expressing their sense of the great loss we have sustained by his decease.

"Mr. Thompson began his literary career as an antiquary about the year 1846, by the publication of *A Handbook of Leicester*, and by the insertion in the local newspaper, of which his father and himself were for many years the proprietors and responsible editors, of a series of *Passages from the History of Leicester*. The preparation of these articles—an occupation in every way congenial with his taste—apparently induced him to meditate the production of that larger work, which justly earned for him the title of 'The Historian of Leicester.'

"Although Mr. Thompson was a careful and diligent student of the pages of the previous writers of local history, he was no mere copyist, and was little likely to be satisfied with the production of a work which would be a mere reflex of the labours of his predecessors. So, after being engaged for nearly a year upon *The History of Leicester*, he, in the year 1847, determined to explore a mine of information which had been hitherto only partially worked by Nichols and others; he applied to the local authorities for permission, which he readily obtained, to inspect, peruse, and transcribe portions of the mass of local documents deposited in the so-called Muniment Room attached to the Mayor's Parlour at the Guild Hall. The sad state in which those valuable documents were found, and their great historical value, have been well stated by Mr. William Kelly, in the preface to his *Notices of Leicester*, and by Mr. Thompson himself. The immediate result of this inspection was the arrangement, and probably the preservation, by the former gentleman, of a long series of the Chamberlains' Accounts, now bound up in thirty-eight volumes, and now placed in the Accountant's Office; and by the latter, of an equally important series of Hall Papers, commencing with the year 1583, and which are carefully bound into upwards of twenty volumes, and preserved in the Town Museum Library. Apart from the good service thus rendered to the student of local history, it is evident that the value of Mr. Thompson's then proposed history of the town was much enhanced by the new historical matter he obtained from this source, and from other valuable collections (including those at Beaumanor) to which he had ready access. This history was published in the year 1849, and will long be an evidence of the painstaking and conscientious manner in which its author treated all historical questions brought under his notice.

"In 1854, or early in 1855, *The Midland Counties Historical Collector* was projected, and Mr. Thompson became its editor, although his name, so far as I remember, did not appear officially in connection with it. Two handsome volumes were issued from the press containing many articles of local interest, but the slight encouragement given to the publisher did not warrant its longer life.

"On the 10th of January, 1855, the Leicestershire Architectural and Archæological Society was formed, and from its commencement until the time of his death, Mr. Thompson was one of its most constant and untiring supporters. Differing strongly as he did from many of us upon political and religious questions, such differences were never obtruded at our meetings, where his presence was always most welcome, as adding light and interest to our proceedings. His literary contributions to our *Transactions* have added much to the solid value of the volumes already published; they embrace a wide range of archæological and historical subjects, commencing with a paper on *The Early Heraldry of Leicestershire*, and terminating with one upon *The Rolls of the Mayors of Leicester*, read at a general meeting of the Society, held in Leicester, in the year 1874.

"Shortly after the formation of this Society, Mr. Thompson published his small, but handsomely printed work, on the *Castle of Leicester*, illustrated by two fine engravings, one showing the interior of the ancient hall of the Castle before its division into the present Assize Courts, and so showing the almost, if not quite, unique Norman wooden columns supporting the roof, and the other, the interior of the dungeon under the 'Mound' or 'Keep.' These engravings were from drawings made by his friend, and ours, the late Mr. Henry Goddard, whose talents as a careful and intelligent draughtsman deserved a wider reputation.

"After some years spent in the work of his laborious profession, during which time many articles of antiquarian interest appeared in the columns of the newspaper of which he was editor, Mr. Thompson again appeared as an author, by the issue, in 1867, of his *Essays on English Municipal History*,—a work throwing much light upon the origin and progress of municipal government, and illustrated by copious extracts from original documents then for the first time brought to light. In 1871 he published his supplementary volume of *The History of Leicester*, bringing his narrative down to the close of the eighteenth century; and, more recently, he prepared for the press and published a pocket edition of his History, with a continuation to the present time.

"It was not only in this way that Mr. Thompson claims the respect and admiration of all lovers of antiquity and of historical investigation: it is well-known to all of us how gallantly and persistently he fought for the preservation of every local archæological and architectural relic; witness his persevering efforts to prevent the destruction of Wyggeston's Hospital, and, what I believe to be the last antiquarian article from his pen, a strong protest, which appeared a few weeks ago in the local newspapers, against the destruction of the ancient Guild Hall, under whose roof you are now assembled.

"Mr. Thompson had for some years been one of the local secretaries of the Society of Antiquaries, and, more recently, he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society.

"I beg, Sir, if I may be allowed to do so by letter, to propose that the following be entered on the minutes of this Society:—'That the members of the Leicestershire Architectural and Archæological Society record, with deep regret, the death of Mr. James Thompson, and wish to express their thorough appreciation of the benefits conferred upon local antiquarian and historical research by his labours, extending over many years, and their high sense of the loss sustained by this and kindred societies by his decease.'

"I am, Dear Sir,

"Your faithful servant,

"THOMAS NORTH, F.S.A."

The above resolution being put before the meeting by the Chairman, and duly seconded, was carried unanimously.

THE ANNUAL SUMMER MEETING

for the year 1877 was held at Southwell, by invitation from the Lincoln Diocesan Architectural Society, on Wednesday and Thursday, the 13th and 14th of June.

June 13th, 1877.

After Morning Prayer in the Collegiate Church,

Mr. Edwin Christian, Architect to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, stated that the substance of the history of Southwell Church had been admirably written and published by Mr. Dimmock, from a paper read before the Archæological Society, and his book might be obtained anywhere in the town. Further investigations had only verified his conclusions, and proved that he was right concerning nearly everything he had said of the history of the Minster. He (Mr. Christian) proposed as an architect to perambulate the church with those who might wish to accompany him, and to show them piece by piece the whole history of the structure. The lecturer then unrolled a plan of what he considered was the Norman Church. He was not prepared to say this was the original church, though he imagined it was so. This was the church in the main as at present seen, though there were parts no longer existing, but the foundations of which might be seen at the eastern end. Sufficient traces remained to show that the plan produced was absolutely correct as regarded the Norman arrangement. Mr. Christian then produced a second plan, showing the additions made to the church during the thirteenth century. There had been a chapel on the south side, which was now entirely destroyed, and was only attributable by conjecture to the period mentioned. A third plan showed the church in its present condition. Mr. Christian went on to remark that before an architect started upon his work, especially when he had got to deal with old buildings, he must necessarily clear his foundations, and though history was very scanty indeed in reference to any former church which had existed here, still there was something, and he had discovered something on Saturday last which had cleared his mind of a very great puzzle. He would be able to show them a part of a church which had preceded the present building, and the remains he had discovered showed very conclusively that in the church that existed before this there was some very beautiful work done. He could not pretend to fix the exact date, but it was very early work, and for his own part he fully believed it had been executed before the Conquest. Mr. Christian proceeded to read extracts which he had culled from an ancient book in the British Museum upon the

Minster by an historian of Southwell, from a work called the *Symposium* in the Minster library, and from the *Liber Albus*, or White Book. The last mentioned work contained the letter from Thomas II., Archbishop of York, who held that see from 1107 to 1114, addressed to his parishioners, and exhorting them to do all that was possible towards the completion of the church of S. Mary at Southwell. It would therefore seem clear—though one could not tell the date to within a few years—that the church was commenced at the beginning of the twelfth century. There was reason to believe that until its completion the work was carried on continuously. How long it occupied in building it was impossible to say, though there were evidences of the lapse of time. So large a building could not, of course, have been built within a very short period. In reference to the chapel, which it is supposed to have existed at the east end of the south transept, Mr. Christian said he could only imagine it was there. It could be seen that the building, whatever it was, was a very lofty one. It had been found unadvisable in order to trace the foundations of the chapel to disturb the pavement in the south aisle, which was in excellent condition. In the north aisle part of the pavement was already up, and it was no great labour to have the rest removed, showing the original foundation at the east end of the transept on that side. According to Mr. Dimmock there was an apse at the east end of the choir, but he (Mr. Christian) had clearly ascertained that this was not so, and the choir was square-headed. Before asking the congregation to go with him round the building, Mr. Christian said he would like to say a word or two with regard to the floor. It was hard to say what was its original level, though he had no doubt the present floor had remained in *statu quo*, the pavement being very ancient. It was generally supposed that the floors of old churches had sunk below the level of the churchyards simply because the latter had risen. No doubt this was so to a certain extent, but it could not be that churchyards had risen to such an extent as he had seen in some places. In his own mind he was tolerably certain that in old times the floors of churches were laid below the level of the adjacent ground, and so he believed it had been in the church at Southwell. No doubt a great deal of mischief had been done in modern churches by lifting up the floors. There were many churches in the country the floors of which rose or fell according to the level of the ground, notably in S. David's Cathedral, which was built into a hill, and where there was a strong slope from one end of the church to the other of three feet six inches. Here, as in many other cases, the bases of the pillars showed that they had been built upon a slope to suit the level of the ground.

The company present, headed by Mr. Christian, then proceeded to make a survey of the building. The original supporting wall of

one of the pillars at the east end of the north aisle was first shown. It is built at a considerable distance below the level of the present floor. Mr. Christian stated that he experienced some little difficulty here in reconciling the levels. The wall pointed out was manifestly of finished workmanship and intended for the public view, but it was at a considerably lower depth than the level of an adjacent chapel, three feet six inches below the level of the main body of the building. After inspecting a corresponding site in the south aisle, and the blocked up entrance to the supposed chapel at the east end of the south aisle, the attention of the company was called to the south front of the south transept, more especially in regard to the irregularities of the workmanship, which, though the general effect was good, might or might not have been mistakes on the part of the workmen, for the same thing was observable in the north transept. Attention was particularly called to the doorway in the south transept as being probably of original Norman work. In reference to this and the restored Norman windows in the south side of the building, Mr. Christian said how far more beautiful from an architectural point of view was the ancient Norman work than that put in at later times. Mr. Christian pointed out the levels of the roof, which he said he longed to see restored. In the west front Mr. Christian pointed out the irregularities in the levels of the strings, and that in the north tower the arches were intersected and in the other pointed. The parapets and the pinnacles above the towers were modern; what roof then had been above the central tower he could not say, but it was probably pyramidal in form. Large windows had been put into the towers during the fourteenth century near their bases, and was the cause of their being very much weakened. The present was not to be regarded as a correct restoration. The windows were no doubt exceedingly small, because the Normans, like all sensible people, likely to have plenty of strength near the ground, and they no doubt put in small windows to avoid grievous settlements. To the north of the present west entrance there had undoubtedly been a small doorway. Essex, who had considerable architectural knowledge, and had been largely quoted, said that there had been three doors on the west side of the Minster, but with all respect for accuracy he (Mr. Christian) did not believe it, having found nothing but traces of the smaller doorway. We had heard of a small door for the kitten and a large one for the cat, and probably the smaller door was used on unimportant occasions and the larger one on State occasions. In the course of the tour round the building Mr. Christian pointed out the original window at the west end of the north aisle from which the pattern of certain of the restored windows had been taken. The north porch, though considerably damaged by alterations, remained in nearly its original state. A curious feature was that there was a chimney connected with it which pointed to the idea that there had

been a living room above. The doors were also remarkable, being of solid oak, carved and sculptured into panels, instead of being framed, which was a very common thing. At the east end the lecturer pointed out how the appearance of the building would be improved by the substitution of a roof of pyramidal form for the present flat covering.

In the afternoon of the same day an

EXCURSION

was made to Thurgarton Priory, where the Venerable Archdeacon Trollope, F.S.A., discoursed on the history of the place.

In the evening a

PUBLIC MEETING

was held in the Assembly Rooms, under the Presidency of the Right Rev. The Lord Bishop of Lincoln, who, after some opening remarks, called upon Mr. M. H. Bloxam, F.S.A., to read his Paper

ON THE ANCIENT BRITISH TRIBE OF THE CORITANI LINDUM CIVITAS CORITANORUM.

The Paper mentioned the fact that the early history of this island, both before and after the Roman invasion, was most important, but before the first expedition of Cæsar there were but few and indistict glimpses of Britain, though they had now learnt from that emperor the names of certain British tribes. In the fiftieth year of the Christian era Scapula entered the country of the Coritani with a Roman army. In A.D. 120 the territory of the tribe of the Coritani extended on the east to the seaboard, from the west to the Humber, on the north and on the west to the Trent, from the Humber southwards to within a short distance of Warwick, and on the south to the river Welland and down to Warwick. That would comprise the whole of Lincoln and Rutland, part of Nottinghamshire and Warwickshire, and the whole of Leicestershire. The stronghold of Lincoln appeared to have occupied the site of the present castle, and was one of the principal cities of the tribe.

A Paper prepared by The Rev. Precentor Venables of Lincoln,

ON CHARLES THE FIRST'S SURRENDER TO THE SCOTS AT SOUTHWELL, MAY, 1646,

was next read, in the writer's absence, by Canon Harvey.

The Rev. G. A. Poole followed with an interesting Paper

ON THE MONUMENT OF BISHOP REMIGIUS.

Votes of thanks to the writers of these Papers (all of which have been printed in the volume of the Associated Societies for the year 1877) having been proposed and seconded:

The Right Rev. the Chairman, previous to submitting the proposition to the meeting, made some observations upon the value of archæological research, and spoke in favour of perpetuating relics of important and past events. He reminded the meeting that on the Castle Hill, at Nottingham, one of the noblest sites in the country, was to be put a magnificent museum of art, raised by the liberality of the municipality of Nottingham, assisted by Parliament. Mr. Hine, the architect, had mentioned to him that day that there was an interesting chamber there into which the Princess Anne was conducted when brought to Nottingham by a trooper, who afterwards became not only an ecclesiastic, but a most dignified ecclesiastic, and was made Bishop of London. When the princess's father heard his daughter had been received in Nottingham, he said he felt it was fatal, and soon afterwards he abdicated. These remains, his lordship said, were deserving of perpetuation, and if the voice of that Society went forth it might have the effect of preserving the records of a critical period in English history. His lordship also lamented the fact of Lincolnshire having no county history from an archæological point of view, saying the history was only fragmentary. The chief interest in the county was centered in the growing of turnips and the value of the soil. There was nothing whatever about their antiquities.

The votes were then unanimously accorded.

June 14*th*, 1877.

A large party assembled for the

SECOND EXCURSION,

to visit churches between Southwell and Sherwood Forest, namely, those at Hockerton, Maplebeck, Kneesal, Wellow, Perlethorpe, Ollerton, and Kirklington. At all these places Archdeacon Trollope, with his usual readiness and lucidity, explained the chief points of architectural and archæological interest.

THE ANNUAL DINNER

was laid in the Assembly Rooms at Six p.m., after which the

CLOSING PUBLIC MEETING

was held in the same Rooms, when

The Rev. F. H. Sutton read a Paper on

RENAISSANCE GLASS,

and The Rev. R. H. Whitworth one on

THE DOCUMENTARY HISTORY OF THE CHURCH AND TOWN OF SOUTHWELL,

both of which Papers have been printed in the volume of the Associated Societies for the year 1877.

Sir Charles Anderson, Bart. proposed a vote of thanks to the lecturers, which was seconded by the Rev. H. Smith.

His Lordship observed that all present must have been not merely gratified, but also very much instructed. The Paper by the Rev. Frederick Sutton was most interesting. That gentleman was not a professed lecturer upon the subject, but himself a no mean proficient in the art of glass painting. As a subject for discussion, it was something very new. The Rev. R. H. Whitworth's Paper, with regard to this great church, was also very interesting. They ought not, perhaps, to go away from this room supposing that in former days everything was *couleur de rose* at Southwell. His own impression was that no great institution, whether in the Church or in the State, was ever injured, except by itself and by its internal corruptions, and the Church of England might learn a very important lesson from the Church of Southwell. First of all, we must be united among ourselves, and consider what our obligations were, and endeavour to do our duty in that state of life in which it has pleased God to call us. If we examined very minutely into the history of Southwell we should no doubt find that the canons and prebendaries were men of great piety, men of a royal hospitality, and men who exercised a domineering influence over this part of the country, this being the mother church of Nottinghamshire. At the festival of the Pentecost almost every parish was represented by those who were obliged to appear at what was practically the Cathedral Church before it had allowed itself to be sapped through its vitals by internal corruption, by luxury, and by self-indulgence. He agreed with Mr. Whitworth that it was a great calamity for Southwell to be withdrawn from episcopal jurisdiction. The indulgences received from Pope

Alexander in 1171 were the beginning of these calamities, and it was afterwards withdrawn from the superintendence of the Archbishop of York, who was then its diocesan. It then existed only in relation to the see of Rome, and what was the consequence? Mr. Whitworth had given most interesting records with regard to the intrusion of Italian clergymen into the livings of Southwell, there being three in succession within sixty years. Whether they were brought from a distance or whether they ever came it was impossible to say, but he fancied many of them were non-resident. The sheep of the English flock could not be fed by people speaking a foreign language and who never saw the parishes to which they were presented. He regretted that there were many people at the present time who threw discredit on the English Reformation. When we considered the records of the enormous abuses perpetrated in England by the Bishops of Rome, we ought to thank God for our emancipation from a thraldom which ground us, as it were, to the dust, and placed an iron yoke upon this Church. In regard to the future of the Church of Southwell, his lordship expressed a hope that it would learn a great deal of wisdom from the past. What did the sixteen canons do? They divided a period of four years by such an arrangement that each of them was resident for only three months of that time, and this they called residence. Could it be wondered that an institution which adopted such a process of evasion should have excited the cupidity of the rapacious? If the prebends were only resident for three months in four years, they might as well not have been resident at all and have disappeared. And they did disappear. They signed their own death-warrant. It was an act of spiritual and ecclesiastical *felo de se*. However, *de mortuis nil nisi bonum*. If there was to be a canonry again there must be very different practices. He trusted that the grammar school now vacant and decayed might rise again. The very thing that it was being endeavoured to do at Lincoln had been attempted at Southwell, viz., the establishment of a theological college; and if the prebends and canons of Southwell had been true to their obligations, no one could tell what would have been the result. Such glorious names as those of Andrews and of Sanderson had been presented as connected with this church, and doubtless Bishop Andrews in his admirable devotions prayed daily for Southwell. We might trust he was offering up prayers now, and that the spirits of the departed were praying for the future of this church. We did not pray for them, but they prayed for and with us. We could not but feel that they had the future very dear to their hearts, and the great benefit of such gatherings as these was the association in the spirit with the holy men and women who had lived in past ages. He believed that Southwell might now become what Henry VIII. and Cranmer wished it to become, the mother church of Nottinghamshire.

Might we not also believe that the great martyred Archbishop was praying for Southwell as well as Lancelot Andrews and Robert Sanderson? Let us believe it, for it was a pious belief, and let us also offer our prayers, knowing that the hearts of thousands and tens of thousands of persons were hoping for the future of Southwell, which he trusted might realize all that was great and glorious when it became, as he trusted it would become, the cathedral church in the cathedral city of a great, prosperous, loyal, learned, and religious diocese.

His Lordship then pronounced the benediction, and the conference ended.

July 30*th*, 1877.

The Rev. J. H. Hill, F.S.A., in the chair.

It was Resolved:—That the thanks of this meeting be conveyed to Archdeacon Trollope for his cordiality and courtesy to the members of this Society during their recent pleasant and instructive visit to Southwell and the neighbourhood.

The following gentlemen were elected members of the Society:—R. G. Wood, Esq., F.S.A., F.R.G.S., Penrhos House, Rugby; Rev. H. Fisher, Rector of Higham, Hinckley.

The following articles were exhibited:

By the Rev. J. H. Hill: Drawings made by Mr. Dibbin of the Roman tessellated pavement, found at Medbourne, the first station east of Ratæ at the time of the Roman occupation; also a drawing of the figures S. Michael and the Dragon, which is on the tympanum of a Norman church doorway at Hallaton.

By Mr. Weatherhead: Several specimens of British Samian ware found in Leicester.

Mr. H. A. Dibbin contributed the following Notes on the

MEDBOURNE TESSELLATED PAVEMENT.

The village of Medbourne, near Market Harborough, was the site of a Roman Station probably of importance, and together with its modern name is a remnant of the ancient MEDIUMBURY, and was no doubt so called from being half way between the great camps of Camoludunum or Colonia (Colchester) and Castra Deva (Chester), being about ninety miles from either. The traces of the grand military road which connected these two places—in a nearly perfect straight line—are still remarkably distinct, and this, the *Via Devana* (*i.e.* leading to the City of the Dee), may yet be travelled on for many miles, although for the greater part long

since disused as a public highway. On this road stand Cambridge, Huntingdon, Leicester, Burton-on-Trent, Newcastle-under-Lyme, &c.

It is difficult to conjecture the exact age of this pavement; from the fact however that coins of the earlier Roman emperors (as well as some later ones) are continually found in the locality, it is probably coeval with the Christian era.

It is interesting to note the geometrical accuracy of this beautiful pattern, and it is found that some of the oldest rules of proportion are embodied therein; one of the chief (which is also exemplified in the Great Pyramid of Ghizeh) is that if the base of a right angle triangle be 3 units and the height 4, the hypothenuse will be 5 units.

The pavement, which was found about four feet below the surface of the ground, probably formed a portion of the "atrium" of the Roman villa, but owing to the evident destruction of the place by fire, and the subsequent removal of the stones for building purposes during the succeeding ages, all the more conspicuous portions of the Roman station are quite obliterated. As may be imagined, the pavement had shared in the general ruin, and of the original structure not more than a sixth part remained. The scattered fragments nevertheless afforded sufficient clue whereby to reproduce the design in its original integrity.

The original extent of the pavement seems to have been (over all) about 42 feet by 22 feet. It was composed of mosaics of various materials about half an inch square, coloured red, white, blue, and drab, laid on a bed of common mortar, which in its turn rested on the original native ground.*

Rev. J. H. Hill read the following remarks upon the drawings exhibited by him:—

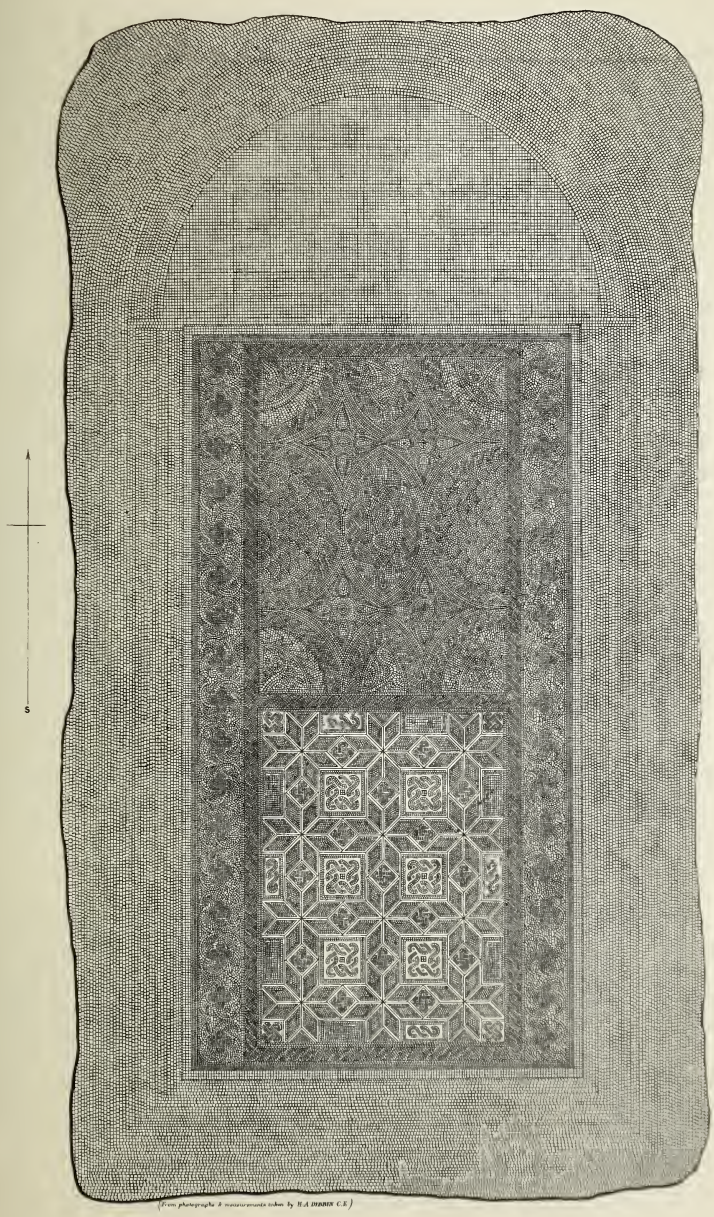
Medbourne Tessellated Pavement.

I have much pleasure in exhibiting a very excellent drawing (by Mr. Dibbin) of the beautiful tessellated pavement lately removed from Medbourne. This pavement was found in the year 1721 in a square entrenchment, not very far from the church, situated to the north of the *Via Devana*, which passed through this parish from Cottingham to Leicester, by Slawston, where it assumed the name of Port Hill, to Cranoe Salters way, and so on by Glooston to Leicester. This pavement was again opened in 1793, and in the beginning of this year it was opened by a gentleman who bought

* By the courtesy of Mr. Dibbin a reduced uncoloured copy of that gentleman's elaborate coloured drawing of the Pavement, made to scale, is here given. The use of a strong glass will show every detail.

Tesselated Pavement in Atrium of ROMAN VILLA at Medbourne,

(Ancient Medivmbvry) Near Market Harboro', Leicestershire



(From photographs & measurements taken by H.A. Ibbbin C.E.)

Scale of Feet.

it, and removed it (I believe) to London. The pavement lay due north and south, about three feet and a half beneath the surface. The floor consisted of tesseræ as follows: whinstone (blue), brick (red), oolitic stone (drab), and white, which was a composition. The size of these tesseræ averages about half an inch, but those on the outward portion of the pattern are double the size. The pattern, as you will observe from the drawing, is very rich in colour and elegant in design, and the size in its perfect state must have been forty by twenty feet, or perhaps more. The pavement must be of early date, perhaps about the beginning of the fourth century; it formed the entrance hall of a Roman villa. Too much credit cannot possibly be given to Mr. Dibbin and his staff for the very careful way in which the pavement has been measured and photographed, by which the design of the entire pavement has been successfully reproduced. The pavement itself has been carefully removed and preserved. Medbourne was the first Roman station east of Leicester, where the meadows of the Welland are the most distinguishing feature. I should think its name is derived from Mead, a meadow, and Burn, a brook; although others have thought it might have obtained its name from a city called Midenborough or Medenborough, formerly standing in the north-west of the village, where remains of the entrenchments with foundations formerly covered a plot of ground nearly half a mile square. The church, which is extremely interesting, but sadly dilapidated, stands upon a bank, surrounded (in early times) by a moat. The chancel of this ancient cross church has been restored in the most excellent and approved manner by Mr. Dalby, of Abingdon. Between Medbourne and Port Hill, a few hundred yards to the west of the village, were three ancient mounds; two of these have been removed, and the third is now surmounted by Medbourne Mill. Numerous coins, pieces of pottery, bones, and medals, have been discovered from time to time in this part of the parish. Also, a small quern has been found here.*

Hallaton Church.

In the north porch of Hallaton Church is a bas-relief of S. Michael slaying a dragon. It is a semicircular stone, or tympanum, six feet broad at the base, and formed a portion of the Norman doorway of the early church. This tympanum is now placed in the west wall of the northern porch. The composition seems to have more merit than the sculpture. S. Michael is in the act of spearing the dragon with a lance, which he holds in his right hand, his shield being in his left. There are three figures

* Further particulars respecting this Pavement will be found in the next Annual Report.

with their hands uplifted, as if supplicating the assistance of S. Michael from the jaws of the dragon, and three others are behind the shield, which the saint appears to have rescued from the monster. Hallaton Church is dedicated to S. Michael and All Saints. I am indebted to Mr. Dibbin for allowing me to exhibit this beautiful drawing, which is also the work of his talented hand.

Hallaton Castle Hill.

I am glad to announce to the Society that Mr. Dibbin (the engineer of the railway now forming hard by) is making excavations at the encampment at Hallaton. This camp is originally Roman, but it is quite clear, I think, that a British Tumulus has been raised upon it, probably in memory of some illustrious warrior of the time. Our lamented friend, the late Mr. Thompson, suggested that the work might have been Norman, and that foundations would be discovered, but so far as Mr. Dibbin's researches have been made, nothing but a few bones, fused metal, three boulder stones, and some oak branches, have been got out. The oak branches were about fourteen feet deep and had the marks of the axe upon them. The mound is about 118 feet in height, and is surrounded by a circular entrenchment about 630 feet in circumference. To the north of this is a small square entrenchment, connected with the outer foss. At the foot of the entrenchment a small rivulet runs, and some distance above this there was a small dam. The measurement of the whole will be found in my first volume of the *History of Gartree*, at page 284. I cannot conclude this without saying how much indebted the Leicestershire Archæological Society is for the patient and unwearied pains Mr. Dibbin is taking to arrive at the real history of one of the most interesting spots in our country.*

Colonel Knight read the following remarks upon recent discoveries upon his estate at

Glen Parva:

The description of Anglo-Saxon relics in the article "Pagan Rutland," in the *Building News*, October 2, 1863, corresponds to the very interesting discoveries which have been brought to light in the parish of Glen Parva, revealing relics of "Pagan Leicestershire," the site being exactly four miles from the ancient Ratæ of the Romans, and close by the turnpike road to Lutterworth.

The first discovery occurred, February 8, 1866, and proved to

* Mr. Dibbin communicated an account of this Earthwork to the Society of Antiquaries: it is printed in the Proceedings of that Society, 17th January, 1878.

be a skeleton, in excellent state of preservation, evidently that of a female, and probably of a lady of high rank, for

"Rich and rare were the gems she wore."

She must have died in the prime of life, with a perfect and beautiful set of very even teeth, &c. She may have been the lady of the Manor, who gave the name of "Countesthorpe" to the adjoining parish. The sepulchre was arched over with stonework.

The second "find"—the skeleton of a man—happened like the first, in excavating for sand, and was unearthed in March, 1871, carefully uplifted, without disturbance of the frame, and now rests in my cellars, just as he was deposited in his original, but, as it happens, not in his "last resting place." He was unquestionably a Saxon soldier; his sword by his side, and his spear-head on his right shoulder.

A third interment was discovered near the last, also the skeleton of a man, lying on the right side, and having near the skull a vessel or urn of black pottery. The bones very little decayed; neither arms nor ornaments were found.

A fourth interment displayed the remains of a skeleton, much broken, but with the skull tolerably perfect.

A fifth find brought to light a well-preserved male skeleton *cir.* 5ft. 8in. in length. The bones were in a fair state of preservation; the left side turned downwards on the soil, and greatly decayed and broken.

Mr. Weatherhead addressed the following letter to the meeting, accompanied by a further list (which is appended) of makers' names found on Samian ware discovered in Leicester and its neighbourhood:

"*To the Members of the Leicestershire Architectural and Archæological Society.*

"Gentlemen,

"As far back as February, 1872, I had the pleasure of furnishing your Society with a list of 'Potters' marks,' (74 in all), as stamped on the red ware termed 'Samian.' I have now the further satisfaction of augmenting that number to 142. Mr. Llewellyn Jewitt, F.S.A., in his book entitled 'Grave mounds and their contents,' states that 'the number of names of potters collected from fragments found in England alone, amounts to more than 2000, and we must suppose them to have been spread over a long period.' This fact alone will give me an ample field for prosecuting the inquiry; and as the objects which I had in view at the outset are fully set forth in the minutes of a meeting held 1872, March 25, it is needless for me to repeat them. Suffice it to say I felt gratified by the Society's incorporating my first list in their published transactions as evidence that such an attempt at an alphabetical list was not only appreciated, but in future, as additions were made from time to time, would likewise prove both interesting and important in a local point of view. This Society may rest assured no endeavour will be wanting on my part to prosecute the matter as, and when, opportunity presents itself; and I earnestly solicit the kind aid of the members of this Society, jointly with their friends, to grant me the loan of any examples they may meet with, in order that I may at some future period have the pleasure

of supplying further addenda. A cheerful acquiescence, combined with a disposition strictly to conserve these interesting Roman relics, would not only aid me, but (what is of far greater importance) confer a benefit to this Society at large.

"I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

"J. E. WEATHERHEAD.

"1877, July 20."

POTTERS' MARKS ON THE RED WARE TERMED "SAMIAN" DISCOVERED IN THE TOWN AND COUNTY OF LEICESTER (*Vide* Vol. IV., Part 2, pages 135-137).

A.

ALBINI. M.
ANNIOS. F. [Annius.]
ANVAR.
OF. APRI [S.]
OF. APRO.
ARICI. MA.
ATLIANI. M. [Atiliani.]
AVITI.

B.

BACCATVS.
BALELAS. [Batelas?]
BITVRIX.
BORILLI. M.

C.

CANTOMALLI. M.
CAPELIO.
CARATILLI.
CARILLI. F.
CATILLVS.
OF. CATVS.
OF. CENS.
CINNAMVS.[Cinnanius?]
CNATOS.
CONDOLLVS. F.
OF. CRESI.
CRICIPO. OFI.
CVCILI. M.

D.

DANVILLI. M.
DIVICATVS.
DOCCALI. M.
DOMETOS. F.[Dometus.]
DONNA.

E.

ESCVSI. M.

F.

OF. FLGR.

G.

GENITOR. F.

H.

HABILIS. F.
HABITIS. F.

I.

IVCVN.
IVLI.

L.

LALLISSI. M.

M.

MACRINVS.
MALLIACI.
MALLVR [O].
MANV [S].
MARCELLINI.
MATERNI.
MATERNINVS.
METHILLVS.
MIMANNIO.
OF. MI. VGI?
OF. MONTANI.

P.

PASSIENI.
OF. PASSIEN [i].
PASSIE [ni].
PATRICI. MA.
PAVLLI. M.
POTITINI. M.
PRIMANI. M.
PRIMVLI.
PRISCVS.

R.

OF. RVFNI [Rufini].

S.

[Sec] VNDI. M.
OF. SEVERI.
SEXTIN.
SILVANI.
SILVINVS.

T.

TITTICI.
TITVRI. M.

V.

VITALIS. M.S.F.
OF. VITAL [is].

The usual votes of thanks closed the meeting.

September 24th, 1877.

The Rev. J. H. Hill, F.S.A., in the chair.

The Chairman read the following letter, addressed to a local newspaper, relative to the discoveries at Hallaton referred to at the last meeting.

Hallaton,
7th August, 1877.

Sir,

To those of your readers who are interested in the archæology of the county, the following *addenda* to the Papers read by the Rev. J. H. Hill at the Library on the 30th, will be of interest.

With regard to the Medbourne tessellated pavement, I may explain that the complete drawing, showing the pavement in its original entirety—as alluded to by Mr. Hill—is now photographed, and is also being chromo-lithographed. Both will shortly be exhibited.

The exploration of the so-called Castle Hill at Hallaton, has not as yet afforded any decided tokens of occupation earlier than Roman. The mound does not appear to have been a barrow or place of sepulture, but was, I should imagine, a mere stronghold, and (according to the late Mr. Thompson's conjecture) the work of Normans or possibly even of Saxons. It has been interesting to find among evidences of these later nationalities the worn and broken fragments of Roman cinerary urns, and one or two small instruments of bronze and iron and brass, and on the other hand the clean sharp fragments of more recent pottery (*i.e.*, broken and deposited there whilst the mound was building), are there by hundreds, as also pieces of leathern shoes, bones of nearly every animal known in England, wrought wooden staves and pointed stakes, a portion of a ladder, a wooden shovel, and portions of bowls, all in oak. Nor was there lacking evidence—in the ashes of wood fires, and in the burnt and broken pots and splintered bones—of the way in which the rude workmen had fed. Mr. Hill has already referred to the rough oak branches found at depths of fourteen to sixteen feet. The original native ground, on which the tumulus was raised, was distinctly visible at 17 ft. 6 in. from the summit of the present mound; no trace of disturbance could be perceived in it over the whole extent of our shafts and galleries. On this original surface lay a bed, or rather many beds, amounting to four feet thick, of black peaty silt and made ground (containing rough boulder stones), which strikes one as singularly ill-adapted to form a foundation for the great weight of dense yellow clay which forms the summit. Indeed, the numerous slips around the foot testify to the subsidence of the soft stuff which those faulty "engineers" had thus put underneath.

The camp adjoining (of horse-shoe shape) yielded abundant evidence of Roman tenure, such as fragments of crucibles, much smelted iron ore,

articles in worked iron, &c.; and the fragments of pottery correspond with those in the tumulus, being Norman, Saxon, Danish, and Roman, although one or two specimens have strongly the appearance of early British ware. Here, also, it should be noted, there are many signs of comparatively recent occupation, and one cannot avoid the conclusion that the plough, or certainly the spade, has been at work here within the last century or two. It would be interesting to find whether the county archives retain any record throwing light on this.

No trace of any building whatever has been come on, nor do I think that, beyond a rude armoury, or smith's forge, any has ever existed here. Neither were human bones or any coins discovered.

On the whole, I am inclined to think that the theory that the Hallaton Castle Hill is British in origin is not untenable; the finding of a very valuable British gold coin at a spot about 500 yards to the eastward (some 25 years ago), favours the idea. And that it has passed under Saxon or Danish rule is supported by the finding (at the Hill itself, some fifteen years ago) of a fine stone quern, or corn mill, of no doubt Scandinavian origin, and which is now in my possession. Its Roman tenure is simply unquestionable; and the Norman occupation is, I think, attested by the fashion of the leathern shoes, the pottery ware, &c.

I am also disposed to think that the adjacent earthworks—about half a mile and one mile to the west of the Castle Hill—are mere outposts or adjuncts to this, the grand old monument of probably many a savage struggle between the confused races of our wild and brutal forefathers.

Thanking you and the Rev. J. H. Hill for your kindly notice of my labours at this most interesting spot,

I am, yours obediently,

HENRY A. DIBBIN.

MR. HILL also laid on the table an account of some tiles which had recently been found at Bubbenhall, near Leamington. Of these he gave the following account:—

In the month of June labourers were employed to pull down some outbuildings at Bubbenhall, near the seat of Mr. Bromley Davenport, M.P., with a view of remodelling and erecting them. These buildings were apparently roofed with the ordinary red tiles of the neighbourhood, and as they were taken off they were piled under a hedge, and in an adjoining field. Nothing appeared extraordinary about them until almost by chance one of them was found to bear an inscription in Roman letters. Altogether seven or eight were found to be thus stamped, though many, perhaps twenty or thirty, were obviously of the same age, make, and material. One of these was taken to Mr. Henry Davis, chemist, of Leamington, who subsequently handed it to Mr. J. Tom Burgess. Two were taken to Ryton-on-Dunsmore, and four remain at Mr. Grimes' of Bubbenhall. Mr. Burgess sent a description of the tiles to several well-known antiquaries, and on Saturday last a brief description—not altogether accurate—appeared in *Notes and Queries*. This note has given rise to some

correspondence, the gist of which is embodied with the "note and query" in the following letter:—

Sir,—My attention has been drawn to a paragraph which appeared in last week's *Notes and Queries*, page 28, reading as follows:—

"Old Roman Inscription.

"In repairing the roof of an old house at Bubbenhall, near Leamington, a quantity of Roman tiles were removed, on seven of which the appended inscription was plainly visible. The house is said to be more than two hundred years old, and its roof had evidently been built of these ancient tiles, which, from their number, had doubtless been found in the neighbourhood. Tradition is silent respecting the occupation by the Romans of the spot. It is, however, not far from the Fossway. Perhaps some of your readers can throw light on the name of the cohort of which L. Æmilius Salvianus was tribune:—

DEO INVICTO
HERCVLI SACR
L. AEMIL SALVANVS
TRB. CoH IVANGI
VS. P.M.

Do these contractions read *Voto suscepto* and *Posuit merito?*

"Vicar."

Now, Sir, this is an exact copy of an inscription found at the great Roman station at Risingham, in Northumberland, nearly three centuries ago. It occurs upon an altar, which is now preserved at Trinity College, Cambridge. It was first described by Camden, in his 1607 edition of his *Britannia*. It is the "Northumberland XXXI." of Horsley in his *Britannia Romana*, and is described by Dr. Bruce in the *Lapidarium Septentrionale* (No. 598, page 310). The latter author, from an inspection of the stone *in its present state*, says that he cannot make out the last letter but one as P, but that all now visible is I. He, therefore, takes the last line to be the usual formula on altars, V.S.L.M. These tiles, however, seem to confirm Camden's and Horsley's readings of P, the expansion of the phrase not being, as "Vicar" considers, *Voto suscepto* and *Posuit merito*, but *Votum solvit posuit merito*. The cohort named is COHORS. I. VANGIONVM, many inscriptions having been left by it at Risingham. Lucius Æmilius Salvianus commanded it, as we know by another inscription, in the year A.D. 205. Whether the tiles found bear modern copies of the inscription, or whether they are of the Roman period, is a most interesting question; I am inclined to think the first-named hypothesis the correct one.

I remain, Sir,
Yours very truly,
W. Thompson Watkin.

39, Plumpton Street, Everton, Liverpool,
July 18th, 1877.*

* *Notes and Queries*, 5th S. viii. pp. 28, 74. See also pp. 133 and 195.

A close examination of the nine stamps—for two of the tiles are stamped twice—revealed the name to be Salvianus, and that he was tribune of the First Cohort of Vangiones, a people of Germany inhabiting the district of Hesse Darmstadt, and their capital was called Borbetomagus, and is now known as the City of Worms. These people are mentioned by Lucan i. v. 431, and by Cæsar G. i. c. 51, and by Tacitus.

The principal doubt respecting these tiles is their rarity. An inscription similar to this has never been recorded as found on any tile before. The tile is of the ordinary shape, 10 by 7½ inches, and a little more than half an inch thick, with one "stub" in the centre of the upper part. The stamp, 4 by 3 inches, has been cut in relief like type on a block of metal, which has evidently had a polished surface. The T in Invicto, and the I's in Aemil, Salvianus, and Trib are all carried above the line. If some one saw the inscription in Camden's *Britannia*, Gibson's Edition, 1695, p. 451, and imitated it, he must have had some knowledge of antiquity, for Gibson gives the last letter but one as L, "Libenter," whilst on the tiles it is P, "Posuit," or, as some have rendered it, "Pietum." If they are genuine, it is, as Mr. M. H. Bloxam, F.S.A., remarks, the most important discovery of Roman remains in Warwickshire since the finding at Alcester, upwards of 200 hundred years ago, of silver aenarii and fourteen or fifteen Roman aurei.

Mr. Charles Roach Smith, F.S.A., one of the greatest authorities on Roman antiquities in England, points out how many eminent French antiquaries have been taken in by similar so-called inscribed antiquities. Tiles, we know, are frail articles, and the preservation of thin tiles whole like these through sixteen and a half centuries of storms, wars, and tempests, is a strong argument against their antiquity.

When Mr. Tom Burgess visited the spot the building itself had been removed, but much of the *debris* remained. The fire-place and chimney stack had evidently been built of strong mortar, in which pounded brick had been freely used with binding courses of similar tiles. The roof itself was not all composed of these so-called Roman tiles, but there were other tiles of similar appearance, but broader and stouter, and not made of so fine a material.

Of course it is a mere matter of conjecture as to where the tiles, if genuine, came from. There is a well-defined Roman Camp at Wappenbury, and Mr. C. Twamley went with Mr. Burgess to visit what appears to have been the site of a Roman Station, or Castrum, at Wolston. In the early numbers of the *Archæological Journal*, Mr. Moultrie, of Rugby, describes the opening of a low barrow at Ryton-on-Dunsmore, in which he found a large plate of iron, apparently Roman. In the line of early entrenchments and camps along the Avon, there is a vacancy

about this place. The matter is worth attention, and, though much more might be said about the Roman sites in the neighbourhood, it is sufficient to record the fact and make the doubt of experts known.*

The Rev. W. H. Marriott exhibited a flint, partially worked, found on his glebe at Thrussington; also several coins in very good preservation, found at Aldborough, Yorkshire.

Captain Whitby produced a Book of Common Prayer, with illustrations, printed by Bill, Barker, Newcomb, and Hills, London, 1678, the property of P. A. Jackson, Esq., of the Newarke.

November 26th, 1877.

The Rev. J. H. Hill in the chair.

A letter having been read from the Venerable Archdeacon Trollope, F.S.A., announcing that in consequence of his appointment to the Suffragan Bishopric of Nottingham he would be unable as heretofore to take an active part in the publication of the Associated Societies' Volume, and suggesting that (whilst he himself was willing to retain the office of "General President"), a "General Secretary" should be appointed to perform that work, and further asking whether this Society would approve of the appointment of the Rev. G. T. Harvey, of Leicester, as such General Secretary,

It was Resolved that the Committee of this Society, whilst learning with satisfaction of the appointment of the Venerable Archdeacon Trollope to the Suffragan Bishopric of Nottingham, regrets to lose his valuable services in connection with the publication of the Associated Societies' Annual Volume of Reports and Papers, and begs to tender to him their hearty thanks for his invariable kindness and courtesy shown to them during many years. They rejoice to find that his long connection with the Associated Societies is to be preserved by his consenting to continue to act as General President.

It was further Resolved that the Committee of this Society will gladly avail themselves of the services of the Rev. G. T. Harvey as General Secretary, for the superintendence of all matters connected with the printing and publishing of the Annual

* Mr. John Evans—an undoubted authority—in a later communication to *Notes and Queries* (5th S. viii. p. 436), finished his remarks by writing:—"All that can be safely said is, that the tiles are modern and not of Roman date." This may be considered conclusive.—Editor.

Volume of the Associated Societies' Reports and Papers, if that gentleman will kindly undertake the office.

At the general meeting the following gentlemen were elected members of the Society:—

W. A. Chaplin, Esq., Wyndham Lodge, Melton Mowbray; W. A. Cox-Hippisley, Esq., M.B., Highcross Street, Leicester; and John McAlpin, Esq., Portland Terrace, Leicester.

Mr. Ordish laid before the Society an architectural plan for the proposed restoration of Syston Church, which received the approbation of the Society.

Mr. F. R. Morley exhibited a lady's elegant patch-box of the period of George I., formed of ivory, ornamented with gold, and a small painting on the lid, the interior containing a mirror; an imitation of a twelfth century seal, the work of "Flint Jack."

Mr. Agar exhibited a graceful miniature portrait of a lady of the time of Queen Anne; two medallions of foreign workmanship; a drawing of a vessel of Samian ware discovered in Mancetter Church during the process of its restoration.

The Rev. J. H. Hill, F.S.A., read a Paper on

EDWARD, FIRST EARL OF RUTLAND,

which has been printed in the Volume of the Associated Societies for 1877.

Publications of the

Leicestershire Architectural and Archæological Society.

Its Transactions (Illustrated), Vol. I., in Four Parts 3s. 6d. each; to Members, 2s. 6d. each; or the volume in Cloth antique, Price 16s.; or to Members, 10s. 6d.

Its Transactions (Illustrated), Vol. II., in Four Parts; or any Part singly, the same price.

Its Transactions (Illustrated), Vol. III., in Four Parts, or any Part singly, the same price.

Its Transactions (Illustrated), Vol. IV., in Four Parts, or any Part singly, the same price.

Reports and Papers of the Associated Societies (Illustrated) for the years 1850 and 1855, and for the years 1864 to 1878 inclusive, 5s. each.

Leicester: Samuel Clarke.

Just Published, Fcap. 4to., Cloth, Red Edges, 470 pp., with 125 Woodcuts, Price 21s.

The Church Bells of Northamptonshire,

Their Inscriptions, Traditions, and Peculiar Uses, with Chapters on Bells and the Northants Bellfounders.

BY

THOMAS NORTH, F.S.A.,

Hon. Mem. and Hon. Sec. of the Leicestershire Architectural and Archæological Society, Hon. Mem. of the Derbyshire Archæological and Natural History Society.

SOME OPINIONS OF THE PRESS:

"Three years ago, we had the pleasure of reviewing Mr. North's excellent 'Church Bells of Leicestershire;' we have still greater pleasure in recommending the second instalment of a series of Books which, the author says, is designed to describe the Campanology of the diocese of Peterborough. Thanks to the devotion of enquirers like Mr. North, we shall, in the course of time, possess accounts of all the bells in England, but no compiler is likely to surpass Mr. North in care and diligence. This is saying a good deal, seeing what excellent volumes have been devoted to the subject."—*Athenæum.*

"Mr. North, whose fulness of knowledge leaves nothing to be desired, has most admirably accomplished the second part of his large task of chronicling the campanology of the diocese of Peterborough. . . . . [he] rightly devotes considerable space and attention to the bell 'uses' peculiar to Northamptonshire. The volume is excellently printed, and is liberally provided with illustrations. Mr. North has marshalled his materials in a way which leaves nothing to be desired."—*Church Bells.*

". . . is full of matter which will be specially useful to those whose attention is being directed to bells as a new subject for research, and its value is much increased by the copious references to authorities which will be found at the foot of every page. The chapter on 'Peculiar Uses' will be read with peculiar interest being very thoroughly done indeed. . . . Mr. North is strongest on the subject which he has made so thoroughly his own, and we heartily wish him health and strength not only to give us a book on the bells of the little county of Rutland, but also one on those of the great county of Lincoln."—*Archæological Journal.*

"The volume is one which not only Campanists but the public generally may peruse with pleasure and profit."—*Northampton Herald.*

"A handsomely printed, careful compilation.—*Northampton Mercury.*

"A handsome volume, so well and appropriately illustrated."—*Newcastle Weekly Chronicle.*

SOME OPINIONS APART FROM THOSE OF THE PRESS:

From the Venerable Lord Alwyne Compton, Archdeacon of Oakham :—

"I think your book is a very complete and thorough account of our Northants Church Bells of which every antiquary in the county should have a copy."

From the Venerable F. H. Thicknesse, Archdeacon of Northampton :—

"I highly value your two Works descriptive of the Bells of Leicestershire and Northamptonshire; one copy of the latter Work I have presented to our Cathedral Library, thinking it quite of sufficient importance to become one of our Diocesan Archives."

From the Hon. Sec. (the Rev. N. F. Lightfoot,) of the Architectural Society of the Archdeaconries of Northampton and Oakham :—

"I shall be very glad for you to use my name as Hon. Sec. in approval of the thoroughly excellent manner in which it [*the Church Bells of Northamptonshire*] has been both drawn up, and brought out. Every one whom I have heard speak of the book characterizes it in the same way."

From the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, F.S.A., Author of "Bells of the Church," &c., &c. :—

"The beau-ideal of what such a Book should be."

LEICESTER: SAMUEL CLARKE.

18.

TRANSACTIONS

OF

THE LEICESTERSHIRE

Architectural and Archæological

SOCIETY.

VOL. V.—PART II.

LEICESTER:

SAMUEL CLARKE, 5, GALLOWTREE GATE.

1880.

Price Three Shillings and Sixpence.

[If sent in error to be returned to Mr. Samuel Clarke, 5, Gallowtree Gate, Leicester.]

GENEALOGY COLLECTION

TRANSACTIONS

OF

THE LEICESTERSHIRE

Architectural and Archæological

SOCIETY.

VOL. V.—PART II.

LEICESTER:

SAMUEL CLARKE, 5, GALLOWTREE GATE.

1880.

Contents.

PAGE

Annual Meeting, 28th January, 1878 87

Saint Alban's Abbey, by Mr. James Neale, F.S.A. . . 96

Public Evening Meeting 97

Four Periods of Gothic Architecture in S. Alban's Abbey, by Mr. James Neale, F.S.A. 98

The Parish Records of Saxelby, Leicestershire, by Mr. Thomas North, F.S.A. 100

The Letters of Alderman Robert Heyricke of Leicester, 1590-1617, by Mr. Thomas North, F.S.A. 108

Melton-Mowbray Town Estate, Documents relating to. . . 163

THE LEICESTERSHIRE ARCHITECTURAL AND ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY,

1878.

Patrons.

His Grace the Duke of Rutland, K.G.
The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Peterborough.

Presidents.

The Worshipful the Mayor of Leicester.
The Right Honourable the Earl Howe.
The Right Honourable the Earl of Denbigh.
The Right Honourable Earl Ferrers.
The Right Honourable the Earl of Gainsborough.
The Right Honourable Lord De Clifford.
The Right Honourable the Earl of Lanesborough.
The Right Honourable the Lord John Manners, M.P.
Sir G. H. Beaumont, Baronet.
Sir William de Capel Brooke, Baronet.
Sir A. B. C. Dixie, Baronet.
Sir Frederick T. Fowke, Baronet.
Sir Arthur Grey Hazlerigg, Baronet.
Sir Henry St. John Halford, Baronet.
Sir Geoffrey Palmer, Baronet.
The Honourable Harry Tyrwhitt Wilson.
The Venerable the Archdeacon of Leicester.
Edward Bouchier Hartopp, Esquire.
Major Wollaston.
N. C. Curzon, Esquire.
Edward Finch Dawson, Esquire.
William Unwin Heygate, Esquire, M.P.
Major F. Palmer.
Major Mowbray.
Major Freer.
H. L. Powys-Keck, Esquire.
T. T. Paget, Esquire.
H. J. Grieveson, Esquire.

Committee.

The Patrons.
The Presidents.
All Rural Deans (being Members).
All Professional Architects (being Members).
Thomas Agar, Esq.
The Rev. C. W. Belgrave.
The Rev. Canon Burfield.
Alfred Ellis, Esq.
The Rev. T. Farebrother.
The Rev. J. H. Hill, F.S.A.
John Hunt, Esq.
Thomas Ingram, Esq.
Colonel Knight.
The Rev. W. H. Marriott.
The Rev. W. B. Moore.
Fred Morley, Esq.
G. C. Neale, Esq.
G. H. Nevinson, Esq.
T. Nevinson, Esq.
James Thompson, Esq., F.R.H.S.
John Wade Wartnaby, Esq.
Captain Whitby.
The Rev. Canon Willes.

Honorary Local Secretaries.

Market Harborough District.

The Rev. J. H. Hill, F.S.A., Cranoe Rectory.

Lutterworth District.

The Rev. Canon Pownall, F.S.A., South Kilworth Rectory.

Melton Mowbray District.

The Rev. A. M. Rendell, Coston Rectory.

Hinckley District.

The Rev. Ernest Tower, Earl's Shilton.

Honorary Corresponding Member for Coventry.

William George Fretton, Esq., Coventry.

Honorary Secretaries of the Society.

George C. Bellairs, Esq., Leicester. (*Corresponding.*)

S. Bull, Esq., Leicester. (*Minute.*)

Thomas North, Esq., F.S.A., The Bank, Leicester. (*Editorial and Financial.*)

Auditor.

Thomas Holyland, Esq.

Honorary Members.

The Worshipful the Mayor of Leicester.
The Ven. Lord Alwyne Compton, Castle Ashby.
Sir Henry Dryden, Bart., Canon's Ashby.
The Ven. Archdeacon Trollope, F.S.A., Leasingham, Sleaford.
M. H. Bloxam, Esq., F.S.A., Rugby.
James Neale, Esq., F.S.A., 8, Adelphi Terrace, London, W.C.
Rev. G. A. Poole, R.D., Winwick Rectory, Rugby.
Ridgeway Lloyd, Esq., S. Alban's.
Sir Geo. Gilbert Scott, R.A., London.
E. L. Stephens, Esq., Leicester.
H. J. Toulmin, Esq., The Prè, S. Alban's.
The Rev. Precentor Mackenzie E. C. Walcott, B.D., F.S.A., 58, Belgrave Road, London, S.W.
J. E. Weatherhead, Esq., Leicester.

Subscribing Members.

Adcock, Wm., Esq., Melton Mowbray.
Agar, Thomas, Esq., Leicester.
Allen, Mr. Wm., Market Harborough.
Armstrong, The Rev. C. E., Stonton Wyville.
Barfoot, Wm., Esq., Leicester.
Barratt, The Rev. D. W., Waltham.
Barnard, Thomas, Esq., Leicester.
Baker, Charles, Esq., Leicester.
Barwell, Mr. T., Leicester.
Bailey, Henry, Esq., Leicester.
Beaumont, Sir Geo. H., Bart., Coleorton Hall.
Belgrave, The Rev. C. W., North Kilworth.
Bellairs, Major *(Hon. Sec.)*, Leicester.
Bellairs, The Rev. S. G. Goadby Marwood.
Bird, The Rev. John, Walton.
Bigge, F. E., Esq., Langton Hall.
Billson, Wm., jun., Esq., Leicester.
Blunt, Geo. H., Esq., Leicester.
Blunt, T., Esq., M.D., Leicester.
Bouskell, James, Esq., Leicester.
Brooke, Sir W. de Capel, Market Harborough.
Brook, Mrs., Enderby.
Broughton, The Rev. Canon, Leicester.
Bridges, The Rev. F. B. H., Bruntingthorpe.
Bryan, The Rev. Hugh, Lyddington, Rutland.
Brooks, T., Esq., Barkby.
Burnaby, The Rev. F. G., Asfordby.
Bull, S., Esq. *(Hon. Sec.)* Leicester.
Burfield, The Rev. Canon, Leicester.
Cardigan, The Rt. Hon. the Countess of, Deene Park.
Campbell, The Hon. and Rev. A. G., Knipton Rectory.
Checkland, George, Esq., S. Alban's.
Chaplin, C. W., Esq., Market Harborough.
Clifford, Lord de (the late), 3, Carlton House Terrace, London.
Clayton, The Rev. Lewis, Leicester.
Clarke, E. H. M., Esq. (the late), Melton Mowbray.

Clarke, Mr. Samuel, Leicester.
Clarke, J. P., Esq., Leicester.
Clephan, Edwin, Esq., Leicester.
Clerk, John, Esq., Rolleston Hall.
Cox, The Rev. Thomas, Kimcote.
Cooper, Alfred, Esq., Wigston Magna.
Cooper, J. H., Esq., Rotherby.
Crossley, C. R., Esq., Leicester.
Croome, The Rev. W. M., Syston.
Curzon, N. C., Esq., Lockington, Derby.
Dawson, E. Finch, Esq., Launde Abbey.
Dalby, The Rev. R., R.D., Staunton Harold.
Denbigh, The Rt. Hon. the Earl of, Newnham Paddox.
Deakins, Mr. John, Leicester.
Deedes, The Rev. Philip, Nether Broughton.
Dixie, Sir A. B. C., Bart., Market Bosworth Hall.
Dickson, The Rev. J. B., LL.D., Glooston.
Disney, The Rev. W. H., Hinckley.
Eastburn, The Rev. C. F., Medbourne.
Ebsworth, The Rev. G. S., Croxton Kerrial.
Ellis, Alfred, Esq., The Brand, Loughborough.
Elmhirst, The Rev. E., Shawell.
Emberlin, H. E., Esq., Oadby.
Farebrother, The Rev. T., Leicester.
Farnham, E. Basil, Esq., Quorndon Hall.
Fast, Mr. J. G., Melton Mowbray.
Fawssett, The Rev. R., Smeeton Westerby.
Ferrers, The Right Hon. Earl, Staunton Harold.
Fearon, The Ven. Archdeacon, Loughborough.
Fenwicke, The Rev. G. C., Blaston.
Ferneley, C. L., Esq., Melton Mowbray.
Fewkes, J. M., Esq., Glen Magna.
Fisher, E. K., Esq., Market Harborough.
Fisher, E., jun., Esq., Blackmore, Sidmouth.
Fisher, The Rev. H., Higham-on-the-Hill.
Fletcher, W., Esq., Belvoir Castle.
Fletcher, The Rev. J. W., Leicester.
Fleming, Mr. J., Leicester.
Fowke, Sir F. T., Bart., Lowesby Hall.
Foxton, George, Esq., Leicester.
Freer, W. J., Esq., Leicester.
Freer, C. T., Esq., Billesdon Coplow.
Franks, W. F., Esq., Billesdon.
Freeston, Mr. H., Market Harborough.
Gainsborough, The Rt. Hon. the Earl of, Exton Park.
Gatty, W. H., Esq., Market Harborough.
Gates, C. H., Esq., Lutterworth.
Glover, The Rev. O., Loughborough.
Goodacre, R. T., Esq., Leicester.
Goddard, Joseph, Esq., F.R.I.B.A., Leicester.
Godson, The Rev. John, Ashby Folville.
Green, John, Esq., Belvoir Castle.
Grimsdick, G. J., Esq., Othorpe House, Market Harborough.
Grieveson, H. J., Esq., Holt House, Market Harborough.
Grundy, Chas. Esq., 26, Budge Row, Cannon Street, London, E.C.
Hazlerigg, Sir A. G., Bart., Nosely Hall.
Halford, Sir Henry St. John, Bart., Wistow Hall.
Harris, J. D., Esq., Ratcliffe Hall.
Harris, Joseph, Esq., West Cotes, Leicester.
Harris, Rev. Joseph, Sheepy Rectory.
Hartopp, E. B., Esq., Little Dalby Hall.
Hanbury, The Rev. T., Church Langton.
Hassall, The Rev. T., Rearsby.
Haymes, Robert, Esq., 47, Kensington Gardens Square, London, W.
Herrick, Mrs. Perry-, Beaumanor Park.
Heygate, W. U., Esq., M.P., Roecliffe.
Hill, The Rev. J. H., F.S.A. *(Hon. Local Sec.)*, Cranoe.
Hill, The Rev. T. B. (the late), Stonesby.
Hickson, Thos., Esq., Melton Mowbray.
Howe, The Rt. Hon. Earl, Gopsall Hall.
Horne, The Rev. E. L., Whissendine.
Holyland, Thomas, Esq., Leicester.
Hodgson, The Rev. W. C., Swepstone.
Hunt, Mrs., Holly Bank, Stonygate, Leicester.
Hunt, John, Esq., Thurnby.
Humberstone, R. H., Esq., Leicester.
Hughes, H., Esq., Leicester.
Ingram, Thomas, Esq., Wigston Magna.
Ingram, W., Esq., Belvoir Castle.
Jackson, Fred., Esq., Nottingham.
Jones, Mr. Thomas, Leicester.
Jones, H. S., Esq., Leicester.
Johnson, R. W., Esq., Melton Mowbray.
Johnson, W., Esq., Saddington.
Keck, H. L. Powys, Esq., Stoughton Grange.
Knight, Colonel, Glen Parva Manor.
Knight, The Rev. G. (the late) Hungarton.
Lanesborough, The Rt. Hon. the Earl of, Swithland Hall.
Latham, W., Esq., Melton Mowbray.
Lakin, The Rev. J. M., Gilmorton.
Lisle, Ambrose Lisle March Phillips de, Esq., Garendon Park.
Manners, The Rt. Hon. Lord John, M.P., Belvoir Castle.
Marriott, The Rev. W. H., Thrussington.
Marriott, C., Esq., Cotesbach.
Macaulay, C. A., Esq., Leicester.
Martin, R. F., Esq., Mountsorrel.
Maxfield, M., Esq., Leicester.
Mercer, F. T., Esq., Market Harborough.
Miles, R. D., Esq., Keyham.
Michie, Mr. Robert, Leicester.
Mowbray, Major, Overseile.
Moore, The Rev. W. B., Evington.

Morley, F., Esq., Leicester.
Mott, F. T., Esq., Leicester.
Mules, The Rev. P., Belvoir Castle.
Musson, W., Esq., Leicester.
Mutch, Dr., Leicester.
Neale, G. C., Esq., Skeffington.
Nevinson, G. H., Esq., Leicester.
Nevinson, Thomas, Esq., Leicester.
Norman, Geo., Esq., Goadby Marwood.
Norman, The Rev. Canon, Bottesford.
North, Thomas, Esq., F.S.A. (*Hon. Sec.*), The Bank, Leicester.
Ordish, F., Esq., Queniborough.
Osborn, The Rev. M. F., R.D., Kibworth.
Overton, Robert, Esq., Leicester.
Owen, The Rev. J. W., Leicester.
Palmer, Sir Geoffrey, Bart., Carlton Park.
Palmer, Sir Archdale, Bart., Wanlip Hall.
Palmer, The Rev. W. H., Wanlip.
Paget, T. T., Esq., Humberstone.
Paget, John, Esq., London.
Paget, Alfred, H., Esq., Leicester.
Palmer, Major, Withcote Hall.
Parker, The Rev. John, Wysall.
Packe, Hussey, Esq., Prestwold Hall.
Peterborough, The Lord Bishop of, Peterborough.
Pearson, Captain, Walcote.
Peake, The Rev. T. C., Hallaton.
Philips, John, Esq., Kibworth.
Piercy, The Rev. J. M., Slawston.
Pownall, The Rev. Canon, R.D., F.S.A., South Kilworth.
Rendell, The Rev. A. M. (*Hon. Local Sec.*), Coston.
Reeve, W. N., Esq., F.S.A., Leicester.
Richardson, The Rev. H. K., R.D., Leire.
Richardson, The Rev. F. H., R.D., Belgrave.
Robinson, G. A., Esq., Leicester.
Robinson, The Rev. F. W., Leicester.
Rolleston, J. F. L., Esq., Scraptoft.
Rutland, His Grace the Duke of, K.G., Belvoir Castle.
Ruskin, Mr. W., jun., Leicester.
Salt, Sir W. A., Bart., Maplewell.
Salt, The Rev. G., Woodhouse Eaves.
Sarson, Mr. T. F., Leicester.
Sandon, The Rev. W. H., Stanford.
Sforza, The Duchess, Ragdale.
Shaw, George, Esq., M.D., Leicester.
Sheild, W., Esq., Uppingham.
Simpkin, Mr. J. G., Leicester.
Small, The Rev. N. P., Market Bosworth.
Smith, William, Esq., 10, John Street, Adelphi, London.
South, Montague, Esq., Leicester.
Spencer, Mr. James, Leicester.
Spencer, Mr. Charles Alfred, Leicester.
Spencer, Mr. John, Leicester.
Stafford, John, Esq., Leicester.
Stretton, Clement, Esq., Glen Magna.
Stevenson, George, Esq., Leicester.
Stocks, The Rev. J. E., Market Harborough.
Taylor, Mr. John, Loughborough.
Thompson, James, Esq., F.R.H.S. (the late), Leicester.
Thorpe, The Rev. F., Burton Overy.
Titley, The Rev. R., Barwell.
Tower, The Rev. E. (*Hon. Local Sec.*), Earl's Shilton.
Tollemache, The Rev. A. F., Whitwick.
Tonkin, The Rev. F., Thurlaston.
Traylin, J. C., Esq., Leicester.
Tronsdale, The Rev. R., Groby.
Turner, The Rev. H. E., Sheepshed.
Twining, Richard, Esq., Bitteswell.
Twells, The Rev. H., R.D., Waltham.
Upcher, The Rev. H. Berners, Dingley.
Waite, R., Esq., Leicester.
Warner, Edward, Esq., Quorn Hall.
Wartnaby, J. W., Esq., Leicester.
Watson, The Rev. J. S., Cotesbach.
Watson, The Rev. H. L., Sharnford.
Whetstone, William, Esq., Coalville.
Whitby, Captain, Leicester.
Whitmore, T. C. D., Esq., Gumley Hall.
Williams, J. H., Esq., Leicester.
Willes, The Rev. Canon, Ashby Magna.
Willson, Mr. John, Kibworth.
Wilson, The Hon. Harry Tyrwhitt, Keythorpe Hall.
Winterton, W., Esq., Leicester.
Woodhouse, J. T., Esq., Over Seile.
Wollaston, Major, Shenton Hall.
Wood, R. H., Esq., F.S.A., Penrhos House, Rugby.
Worswick, Captain, Normanton.
Wright, A., Esq., Leicester.
Yard, The Rev. Canon, The Confratery, Leicester.

RULES.

1. That the Society be called "THE ARCHITECTURAL AND ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY" of the County of Leicester.

2. That the Objects of the Society be, to promote the study of Ecclesiastical Architecture, General Antiquities, and the Restoration of Mutilated Architectural Remains within the County; and to furnish Suggestions, so far as may be within its province, for improving the character of Ecclesiastical Edifices, and for preserving all Ancient Remains which the Committee may consider of value and importance.

3. That the Society be composed of Patrons, Presidents, Treasurer, and Secretaries; and honorary and ordinary Members.

4. That Members of the Society be privileged to propose new Members, either by letter or personally, to be elected at the Committee Meetings; and that Honorary Members be elected only at the nomination of the Committee, at a general or special meeting.

5. That Rural Deans within the County of Leicester be *ex officio* Members of the Committee, on their signifying an intention to become Members of the Society.

6. That each Member shall pay an Annual Subscription of Ten Shillings, to be due on the first day of January in each year.

7. That the affairs of the Society be conducted by a Committee composed of the Patrons, Presidents, Rural Deans, and not less than twenty ordinary Members; of whom four at least shall have been Members of the Committee of the preceding year.

8. That Meetings of the Members be held the last Monday in every alternate month, and a General Meeting in each year previous to the Public Meetings; and that at such General Meeting the Committee be elected, the accounts be passed, and the yearly Report presented; and such new Rules, or alterations in the Rules, proposed and made, as may be thought necessary.

9.—That the Committee (of whom five shall be a quorum) have power to add to their number, and to elect from the Society the requisite number of Secretaries.

10.—That the Members of the Committee in any neighbourhood may associate other Members of the Society with themselves, and form Committees for Local Purposes in communication with the Central Committee.

11.—That the Public Meetings of the Society be holden at such times and places as shall be appointed by the Committee.

12.—That the Committee meet at the times and places which they may themselves appoint.

13.—That the Secretaries be empowered, on the requisition of five Members of the Committee, to call a Special Meeting of the Society.

14.—That Donations of Architectural and Antiquarian Books, Plans, &c., be received; that the Committee be empowered to make purchases and procure casts and drawings, which shall be under the charge of the Secretaries.

15.—That when the Committee shall consider any Paper, which may have been read before the Society, worthy of being printed at its expense, they shall request the author to furnish a copy, and shall decide upon the number of copies to be printed, provided always that the number be sufficient to supply each Member with one copy, and the author with twenty-five copies. All other questions relating to publishing plans and papers, and illustrating them with engravings, shall be decided by the Committee.

16.—That the Committee may every year publish, or join with other Architectural and Archæological Societies in publishing, for circulation among the Members, Transactions to contain descriptions and Papers connected with the objects of the Society.

17.—That on application being made to any Member of the Committee, or to the Committee collectively, for the advice of the Society in the restoration of any Church, a Sub-Committee be appointed (of which the Incumbent or Resident Minister be one) to visit the Church, and submit a report in writing to the General Committee.

18.—That all Plans for the building, enlargement, or restoration of Churches, Schools, &c., sent for the inspection of the Committee, be placed in the hands of one of the Secretaries of the Society, at least fourteen days before the Committee Meeting, for the Secretary to prepare a special report thereon.

19.—That the Committee have power at any meeting to make grants towards the objects of the Society, provided that if such grant exceed 30s., notice be given in the circular calling the Meeting.

The Bi-Monthly Meetings of the Society are held on the last Mondays in January, March, May, July, September, and November—the Meeting in January to be the General Meeting for the transaction of business.

January 28th, 1878.

The Rev. J. H. Hill, F.S.A., in the chair.

The following Resolutions were passed :

1. That the thanks of the Society be given to Mr. Bull on his retirement as one of the Honorary Secretaries, and to Captain Whitby on his retirement as Auditor of the Society.

2. That Mr. William Jesse Freer be elected an Honorary Secretary of the Society.

3. That Mr. Thomas Holyland be elected Auditor of the Society.

4. That Mr. Thomas North, F.S.A., be recommended for election as an Honorary Member of the Society as a mark of the appreciation of his long and valuable services as one of its Honorary Secretaries.

5. That the Annual Report and audited Statement of Accounts now submitted be approved and passed, and be read at the Annual Meeting to be held on the 30th instant; and that the thanks of the Society be given to Mr. North for preparing the same.

6. That the Annual Grant for the cost of the publication of the Transactions of the Society be made as usual.

Major Bellairs having exhibited a sketch of the proposed Badge of the Society, it was

Resolved that the Badge be engraved.

The following lady and gentlemen were elected members :—

Mr. Horace Chaplin, South Luffenham Hall, Stamford; the Rev. T. Roberts, Melbury Bubb Rectory, Sherborne; Sir Bache Cunard, Bart., Hallaton Hall, Uppingham; Mr. Charles Bland, Gaddesby, Leicester; and Mrs. Haswell, North Street, Rugby.

The Chairman read a short description of the lately uncovered Roman tessellated pavement at Medbourne, illustrated by some beautifully executed drawings made to scale by Mr. Dibben, the engineer to the London and North Western Railway, and exhibited by him.

The following antiquities, etc., were exhibited :—

By Mr. Deakin : A copper penny of William III.

By Mr. W. J. Freer : Two antique gems of red cornelian, found in the ruins of the town of Sulcis, in the Island of St. Antioche, Sardinia. One of the gems was perfect; it had been set in a ring. The seal was oval in shape, and represented a female full length figure in Roman drapery. The other gem, which was very convex in shape and much damaged, had an insect engraved on it. The town or domain of Sulcis belonged to Pompey the Great, and was destroyed by the partizans of Julius Cæsar after the Battle of Pharsalia.

30th January, 1878.

THE ANNUAL MEETING

of the Society was held in the Lecture Hall of the Town Museum, Leicester,

The Rev. Canon Burfield in the chair.

The following

ANNUAL REPORT

was read and adopted :—

The Committee of the Leicestershire Architectural and Archæological Society begs to present to the members the Twenty-third Annual Report of its Proceedings. The Society continues in a prosperous state as to the number of its members.

A severe loss has been sustained during the past year by the death of Mr. James Thompson, the historian of Leicester. Your Committee marked its appreciation of the services rendered by him to archæology and to historical research by entering a special resolution to that effect in its minute book, on the 28th of May last.

The bi-monthly meetings have been held as usual. Your Committee regret to say that the attendance at those meetings was not large, and that the interest of them was not so well sustained as it might have been.

The publications of the Society placed in your hands during the year, were not only as attractive as usual, but were specially rich in illustrations. These publications alone show the value of this and kindred Societies in encouraging a taste for historical and antiquarian research, and in affording a vehicle for the preservation and dissemination of the results of much labour which otherwise would, probably, never appear in print, and so be lost for future as well as present use.

By the elevation of the Venerable Archdeacon Trollope to the Suffragan Bishopric of Nottingham, the Associated Architectural Societies lose his valuable services as editor of the "Annual Volume of Reports and Papers," but your Committee rejoice in being able to say that his connection with this and the other Associated Societies is preserved by his consenting to fill the office of General President. The editorship of the Annual Volume has been kindly undertaken by the Rev. G. T. Harvey, of Lincoln, who now holds the office of General Secretary. In our own Society Mr. Holyland has been elected auditor in the place of Captain Whitby, who has resigned that office, and your Committee have confidence that its executive will be strengthened by the election of Mr. William Jesse Freer as an additional honorary secretary. Mr. S. Bull, who, as one of the honorary secretaries of the Society, has lately taken the minutes of the meetings, has also retired, to the regret of your Committee.

The Annual Summer Meetings and Excursions were held at, and took place from Southwell, under the presidency of the Bishop of Lincoln, on the 13th and 14th of June, where such of the members of this Society as wished to do so joined the proceedings of the Lincoln Diocesan Society, by invitation of the General President, Archdeacon Trollope. The first day's proceedings commenced with an inspection of the *Collegiate Church*, under the guidance of

Mr. E. Christian, the Architect to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, who, by means of three large architectural plans, and by oral descriptions, clearly conveyed to the assembly what he considered to be the architectural history of the church. The first plan showed his conception of the Norman church; the second showed the additions made in the thirteenth century; and the third the church in its present condition. In the afternoon an excursion was made to *Thurgarton Priory*, where Archdeacon Trollope, after giving an interesting account of D'Eyncourt, the founder of the priory, and his family, described the present beautiful but later structure, which was erected in the thirteenth century. This he did at considerable length, and in his usual lucid style, after which the company returned to Southwell to prepare for the evening meeting. That meeting was opened by the Bishop of Lincoln with some appreciative and kindly suggestions with regard to the work of restoration going on in the Collegiate Church. At the close of his remarks his Lordship called successively upon Mr. Bloxam, F.S.A., Precentor Venables, and the Rev. G. A. Poole, to read their promised Papers. The latter gentleman in his contribution *On the Monument of Bishop Remigius*, proved how an intelligent study of antiquities may not unfrequently restore a tattered leaf in history, and how important it is to preserve every fragment of ancient work connected with the architectural monuments of earlier times. The casual sight of a broken coffin lid, without inscription, which lay amongst some other stone-work in the cloister court of Lincoln Cathedral has led to the identification, and restoration to its proper place in the Cathedral, of the upper portion of what Mr. Poole almost irresistibly proves to have been the monument of Remigius, the founder of the See, and the builder of the Cathedral Church at Lincoln—a service rendered to departed greatness of which any archæologist may be proud. On the second day an agreeable and instructive excursion was made to several churches in the neighbourhood, where Archdeacon Trollope again acted as director. In the evening a large party met at dinner in the Assembly Rooms, after which a second public meeting was held, presided over by the Bishop of Lincoln. The proceedings were opened by the Rev. F. H. Sutton, who read a learned and useful Paper upon *Renaissance Glass*, a subject upon which, as is well known, Mr. Sutton is a high authority. After a description of the style, and giving many references to existing examples of this glass in this country and on the continent, Mr. Sutton observed that if, in this nineteenth century, we are to have a style of glass painting of our own, it seems not unlikely that it will be found in some modification of the Renaissance style, perhaps a Renaissance of the Renaissance. A very interesting Paper upon *The Documentary History of the Church and Town of Southwell*, by the Rev. R. H. Whitworth, followed, after which the meeting was closed by the Bishop of Lincoln, who at the end of his address expressed a hope, in which all must heartily concur, that the future of Southwell may realize all that is great and glorious, when it becomes, as he trusted it would become, the cathedral church in the cathedral city of a great, prosperous, loyal, learned, and religious diocese.

Your Committee beg to call your attention to a few works of Church Building and Restoration completed in the county during the past year.

Church of S. Saviour, Leicester.

This church, which is from the designs of Sir G. Gilbert Scott, R.A., is built of red brick with stone dressings. The style is Early English of the Lancet period. The church consists of a nave of four bays, with aisles, transepts, and chancel, with vestries on the south side, and an organ chamber on the north, and is terminated with a semicircular apse. The tower stands at the west end of the south aisle, and is crowned with a broach stone spire. The arcades are composed of brick cylindrical piers, with carved stone capitals supporting moulded brick arches. Both nave and transepts have a clerestory. The four great piers at the angles of the transepts are composed of polished

Shap granite with carved capitals in stone. The roof of the church between the transepts is vaulted in brick, resting on stone ribs. The roofs of the nave and transepts are of open timber work, that of the chancel is groined in timber, and the apse or sacrarium is covered with a brick vault. There is a magnificent peal of eight bells, cast by Taylor and Son, of Loughborough. The church is a fine and imposing structure in many respects, but there is a want of dignity at the east end, the apse or sacrarium being much too confined.

S. Leonard's Church, Leicester.

This church, from the designs of Messrs. Ordish and Traylen, of Leicester, is constructed of rough granite in random work, with a free use of wrought stone in the pillars, doors, and windows. The style is decorated. The plan at present consists of a nave with south aisle and an ambulatory on the north side, chancel with vestries, and organ chamber, and a south porch, which is so constructed as to form the lowest stage of the tower should that be built. There is a peculiar feature on the south side of the chancel, that of a passage running at the back of the choir stalls under the organ chamber communicating with the south aisle of the nave, which will be found very convenient for the communicants leaving the holy table, and for other purposes. The same will be repeated on the other side when the north aisle of the church is built. The interior of the church is very striking, which is partly owing to its great altitude. but more so from the imposing chancel, which is of great size compared with the church, and is considerably elevated above the floor of the nave. Some persons may think that the effect of the interior is marred by the west end of the nave being carried outwards to an angle in the middle, and by the last bay of the nave eastwards not being in a line with the others, but brought inwards towards the chancel arch. The interior of the church, however, must be thought very satisfactery, more so, perhaps, than the outside. A pleasant connection is created between the ancient Church of S. Leonard, destroyed during the Civil Wars, and this new church by the gift to it of, what is believed to have been, the ancient font of the old church. This font was presented many years ago to the Town Museum, and has been there preserved. Upon an application being made to the proper authorities by Mr. French (the Vicar), this ancient relic was at once placed at his disposal, and now most appropriately stands in the new church. It may be mentioned that this is not the only ancient font in Leicester churches restored to holy uses. In S. Matthew's Church may be seen the ancient font of Dalby Parva Church, which being turned out of that church during restoration and alteration, was preserved by a member of this Society, and presented to the church in which it now stands, when that edifice was erected a few years ago.

Hinckley Church.

This church after undergoing extensive alterations, was reopened at the close of the past year (1876). The old south aisle, transept, and vestry, were taken down, and the two former rebuilt, whilst a chancel aisle supplies a vestry (divided from the south aisle by an oaken screen), with an organ chamber over. The roof is of pitch pine, covered with lead. The old floor was taken up and new oaken seats placed. The clerestory windows, formerly of two lights, were replaced by new ones of three lights each. The tower windows have been restored and repaired. Perhaps the greatest improvement effected in the church—and one of proper restoration—is gained by the removal of the west gallery, which brings into view the tower arch and the western window. Another gallery, formerly in the south aisle, has also been removed. The bells have been rehung, and proper arrangements made for the comfort of the ringers, and for a decent and orderly performance of their work as officers of the church. A new pulpit and heating apparatus, and an organ rebuilt and

enlarged, speak of the liberality and energy of the Churchmen of Hinckley. Further work will have to be done before the plans of the architect—Mr. W. Smith, of John Street, Adelphi, London—are fully carried out.

Thrussington Church.

The church here, which was for many years in a sadly dilapidated condition, has undergone a thorough and judicious restoration under the care of Messrs. Goddard and Paget, of Leicester. The north aisle, which had become in so ruinous a condition as to be incapable of restoration, has been taken down, and a new aisle built to accord in width with the aisle on the south side of the church. A great improvement has been effected here, as at Hinckley, by the removal of the western gallery, and the opening and restoration of the tower arch; and the tower itself has been thoroughly restored, and a new ringing floor, &c., inserted. The floors throughout the church have been laid with tiles, and the square high pews have been replaced by simple but effective seats. A simple pulpit, too, takes the place of the former rather cumbrous structure. In the chancel, a window of two lights, a priest's door, and a low-side window (all of which had been built up) have been reopened and restored; and three new windows have been inserted in the south wall, which give entrance to the light, which was much wanted. When, in addition to these works, it can be added that the font has been well restored, that a new porch (with certain features of the old one worked in) replaces a very dilapidated one, and that the whole of the decayed roofs have been replaced by sound ones, it will be seen that the church of this parish is now in a comely and decent condition. To preserve it in the future, a wide surface drain has been laid, in blue brick embedded in cement, all round the building.

Melton Mowbray Church.

The restoration of the tower of this grand parish church has been proceeded with during the past year. The whole of the north and east sides have received new stone where there was any decay. The workmanship is very good, but, in the opinion of many, a want of judgment is shown in the use of patches of white stone which disfigure the ashlar. In the lower portion of the tower, which may well be said to be incomparable in its design and workmanship, the original contrast of deep yellow ashlar with white dressings should be preserved. Suitable louvre boards are being placed in the windows in substitution for the stone and boarding lately there. A new clock dial has been fixed on the north side at a rather higher elevation than the old one. This, of course, is a great convenience, and almost a necessity in a utilitarian point of view, but it is earnestly to be hoped that the finest side of the tower (that towards the south) will not be disfigured by having a huge clock face placed upon it, as at present threatened. It is by no means a necessity on that side of the church, and, if fixed, will go far to sacrifice the beauty and elegance of a parish church tower scarcely excelled in the whole field of Gothic architecture.

Other Works and in Contemplation.

In addition to the works now specified, it may be mentioned that the parish church of Castle Donington, after undergoing a much needed restoration and repair, was reopened in February last. The spire of the interesting church of Buckminster has been thoroughly repaired and strengthened inside by arches turned at the angles, and much work has been going on in the chancel of the church at Harby. The chancel of Belgrave Church, too, is under repair, and efforts are being made to raise funds for the restoration of several other village churches in this county. Amongst these may be mentioned Sheepshed, where enlargement as well as restoration is much needed;

the picturesque church of Brooksby, as seen from the line of the Midland Railway, which was struck by lightning in August last and rendered unsafe for Divine Service; the church of St. Luke at Laughton, where it is hoped modern vandalism and ugliness may ere long be replaced by a return to the original design of the structure; and the parish church of Croft, where there is very much calling for emendation.

Roman Pavement at Medbourne.

The existence of a Roman Pavement at Medbourne in this county, to which the attention of this Society was called in July last, has long been known; it was partly uncovered in the year 1721, and again in 1793. Situated in a small paddock not far from the church, and by the side of the stream, the main building to which it formerly belonged, and to which it probably formed the *atrium*, stood on the north of the *Via Devana*, which passed through the parish. Early in the past year (1877) this pavement was again opened, and the whole of it laid bare by Mr. Frederick Peake, assisted by Mr. Dibben, the engineer of the London and North Western Railway Company, and his staff. It was found to be between three and four feet below the present surface, and to have been, when complete, forty-two feet long by twenty-two feet wide. It was composed of tesseræ of four colours, those composing the inner geometrical pattern, being about half-an-inch square, those of the border about one inch. The ground being about to be occupied as a site for cottages, the whole was photographed—correct drawings to scale being also made—and subsequently the tesseræ were removed, and are now deposited in the South Kensington Museum, having been placed there by Mr. Frederick Peake, and will be reset there. An accurate drawing of the pavement made to scale is in Mr. Peake's possession, and that gentleman also possesses a considerable number of Roman coins found by the labourers at different times; many of them are of the age of Constantine, others earlier.

The Ancient Records of Leicester.

The Corporation of Leicester has recently carried out measures with regard to the Archives of the Borough which demand not only the commendable notice of your Committee, but the hearty thanks of all interested in the past history of this country, and especially of that of this locality. Where the charters and other writings belonging to Leicester were deposited prior to the sixteenth century it is not now necessary to inquire. About the middle of that century (in 1562) the Mayor and his brethren became the possessors of the hall of the then suppressed Guild of Corpus Christi. The hall was shortly afterwards enlarged, and subsequently the portions known as the Mayor's Parlour, the Muniment Room, and the library were added. The records were certainly placed in the little room lately called the Muniment Room, but at first called "the Study," early in the following century, for in 1608-9 the Chamberlains charge:—

> Itm pd to Wm Sheene for a nest of Boxes sett up in the Studye to keepe drye the Towne's Wrytinges . . . . . xiijs. iiijd.

These were the drawers still remaining, in which some of the Guild Rolls and other documents were preserved. A few years later (in 1645), when the town was taken by the Royal Army, this "Studye" was broken open, and the charters, &c., removed by the soldiery. They were redeemed by the payment of £100—but we do not know how many documents of historic value were then destroyed or never restored. During the next year the Mayor and others endeavoured to restore a little order in the chaos caused by the unruly soldiers: the chamberlains tell the occurrence very well in the brief entries in their accounts for 1646-7:—

Itm pd for bread and beare when Mr. Maior and others was at sortinge the writings in the Charter House and for pack thred to tye writings together . . . . . is. viijd.
Itm pd to Richard Whittle for two greate chests to laye the charters and other evidences in . . . . . iij^{li}.

The "sorting" evidently took some time, for more beer and bread were consumed, and a further sum of £1 3s. 10d. expended upon "greate locks and for hynges for the great chests." There the Borough Archives rested, apparently little consulted by local antiquaries, until they were examined by Nichols, who printed several of these records in his history of Leicester, and in the year 1847, as is well known, their arrangement, to some extent, was undertaken by the late Mr. James Thompson, who was then collecting material for his *History of Leicester,* and by Mr. William Kelly, who shortly afterwards—on the 24th February, 1851—read a Paper before the Leicester Literary and Philosophical Society on the *Ancient Records of Leicester.* In that Paper Mr. Kelly told us very much that was unknown before, and gave such an epitome of the contents of the Muniment Room as induced a strong desire in all local antiquaries to have the ancient documents deposited in a safer and more suitable place, and so arranged and classified as to render them more available for consultation and reference. Nothing, however, was done beyond the labours of Messrs. Thompson and Kelly (and how much we owe to them all local archæologists gratefully acknowledge), until after the opening of the new Municipal Buildings in 1876, when all matters connected with the business of the Corporation being removed from the Guild Hall, the question of the future destination of the Borough Archives would naturally suggest itself. Fortunately the question was raised by a gentleman—Mr. Alderman Burgess—who, having an appreciative conception of their value, was well qualified to urge the importance of their deposit in a place specially adapted to their better preservation. At a meeting of the Town Council held in August last Mr. Burgess detailed what had been done by Messrs. Thompson and Kelly, and gave a sketch so far as known, of the contents of the old Muniment Room, which room he truly described as being in a very disgraceful state, and the documents as suffering from damp, rain, and the ravages of rats. After further pointing out that a fire occurring in the neighbourhood might destroy the whole, he moved as a resolution, which, being seconded by Mr. Holyland, was carried, "That the question of the ancient documents and charters of the Corporation be referred to the immediate attention of the Town Hall Management Committee." The work of that Committee was undertaken by Mr. Alderman Burgess, Mr. Alfred Paget, and Mr. Kelly. Their first step was to have (under their supervision) the whole of the contents of the old Muniment Room removed to a spare room in the new Town Hall, until a proper Muniment Room should be provided. There the documents were carefully dusted and sorted. Sir T. Duffus Hardy, the deputy keeper of the Public Record Office in London, was then consulted as to the best steps to be taken. At that gentleman's instance the Royal Commissioners on Historical Manuscripts sent down one of their inspectors of manuscripts, Mr. J. Cordy Jeaffreson, the well known writer, to report on the Leicester Records at the expense of the Government. After about six weeks' hard labour, during which time all the documents, numbering over 1200,* passed through his hands, and were perused by him, Mr. Jeaffreson completed his labours. That those labours were great such a statement proves, but in addition to the work of perusal and arrangement, Mr. Jeaffreson made particular notes, containing in some instances long extracts, of all the documents of historic interest. Those notes will, in due course, be printed in his Report to Her Majesty's Commissioners on Historical

* The 1200 refers to the documents of historical value; the number of MSS. preserved in the Muniment Room, and inspected by Mr. Jeaffreson in his search for notable writings, being at least ten times as numerous.

Manuscripts, and so will be published in a Blue Book. They will, no doubt, be found to afford a sufficiently complete exhibition of the contents of every record in the collection likely to be of any service to historical students. To those of us who are aware how much time and learning were expended upon the elucidation and arrangement of the Records some years ago by the two local antiquaries before mentioned, it will occasion no surprise to hear that though Mr. Jeaffreson will be able to call attention to a large number of hitherto unpublished memorials of high moment, his Report will not announce the discovery of many documents overlooked by previous searchers. That the Rolls of the Merchants' Guild begin with records of the proceedings of the Guild in the time of Richard the First is no news to Leicestershire antiquaries, but it has hitherto escaped the notice of special examiners of the Leicester archives that what has hitherto been called the oldest Guild roll is shown—as was pointed out by Mr. Jeaffreson—by the needle marks at the top of the first membrane, and by other sure signs, to be only a fragment of a roll begun at some time anterior to the date of this first extant membrane. It is also obvious that two other pieces of vellum covered with writing of the same period, which have hitherto been regarded as separate records, or pieces of separate records are detached membranes that were at one time part of this ancient and imperfect roll. Mr. Jeaffreson found that the Royal Charters, which open with two separate ones granted by King John on the same day of the first year of his reign, when he was in Normandy, are of great interest, and that the collection of charters of the Norman earls beginning with a hitherto unpublished one of Robert Bussu, preserves a continuous series of historic writings from the eleventh to the end of the seventeenth century. It was in connection with this last mentioned series that Mr. Jeaffreson made what is, perhaps, his most notable discovery. His commendable, and indeed essential, practice of opening and looking into every writing offered to his hands, resulted in the discovery of a deeply interesting document which must have escaped the consideration of all recent students of the Leicester manuscripts. It is no matter of great surprise that this writing should have been overlooked. Its unusual size would cause it to be mistaken for a record of a time much later than the thirteenth century by any person who only regarded its exterior. Folded again and again it has the outward appearance of a seventeenth century indenture, and upon first taking it into his hands, Mr. Jeaffreson expected to find it some indenture of a mortgage or lease to farm, penned in the Elizabethan time, and having, probably, only the faintest qualifications of historic virtue. He was, therefore, not a little surprised to find it an indented Charter dated in the year 1277, and granted by Simon de Montfort's immediate successor in the Earldom of Leicester, Edmund Crouchback, brother of King Edward the First. It contains a series of remarkable ordinances for the reformation of the laws of the Portmanmote of Leicester. Both from the magnitude of the skin, which exhibits its various concessions and provisions, and also from the importance of the alterations which it made in the laws of the borough this charter should, Mr. Jeaffreson suggested, be henceforth styled "The Great Charter of Leicester." The interest of this notable record to the historical student is enhanced by the fact that all the historians of Leicester have assumed that Edmund Crouchback took no strong personal concern in the affairs of his burghers of Leicester, and that history, after announcing his accession to the Earldom, had little to add respecting his tenure of that dignity and power. So far as the annals of Leicester are concerned, Earl Edmund may be called one of our forgotten worthies. The recovery of his great charter to the citizens of Leicester gives him, however, a place in history which an ungenerous fate has hitherto denied him. The language of the charter—with which Mr. Jeaffreson is fully conversant—is the hard Norman French of the time immediately following the Conquest. What makes this view of Earl Edmund's connection with Leicester all the more remarkable, is that two several copies (*i.e.* a French transcript,

and a fifteenth century translation into English) of the long lost charter, were found by Mr. Jeaffreson preserved in the "Vellum Book" of the borough of Leicester, which valuable and extremely interesting Chartulary will be carefully described in his forthcoming report to Her Majesty's Commissioners on Historical Manuscripts. The French of this copy in the "Vellum Book" being of a later period than the French of the original document, a comparison of the orthographical peculiarities of the charter with those of the transcript affords a view of the modifications effected in mediæval French that will be singularly entertaining and instructive to students of that language. Mr. Jeaffreson's report will also doubtless call attention to several valuable records, which although not altogether unknown to previous searchers of the Leicester muniments, were never accurately decyphered, and it must be added, fully understood, by those who have referred to their contents. One of these imperfectly known documents is the minutely written charter, commemorating two inquisitions made in the thirty-seventh year of Henry the Third, for the origin of gable pence and bridge silver at Leicester, which may fairly be described as one of the most remarkable examples of concentrated social history to be found in our memorials of life and manners in mediæval England. Enough has been said—and it is hoped the circumstances warrant the length devoted to their notice—to show the importance of the measures lately taken by the Corporation with regard to their local Records. These Records Mr. Jeaffreson values so highly as to say that leaving out London, and perhaps York, no Corporation in the kingdom possesses so extensive and valuable a collection, or in such good order and preservation, as these now are. Upon the completion of Mr. Jeaffreson's labours, the Committee consulted with him as to the future preservation of the records, and the best means of arranging them for ready reference, and also as to the publication of some portion of them. The suggestions offered by that gentleman were embodied in the Report of the Committee presented to the Town Council at their meeting on the first of this present month of January. That report, which was carried unanimously, is doubtless known to all members of this Society. It is due to the Corporation to gratefully acknowledge the cordiality with which the members of the Committee, to whom the matter was referred, aided Mr. Jeaffreson in his labours, and the unanimous and hearty way in which they accepted his suggestions. On the completion of his task, which he has now undertaken on the invitation of the Town Council, the Records will be placed in proper security, and also in an order that will enable the student to consult their treasures without difficulty; and by publishing the more attractive records with full translations of the selected documents and specimens of their contracted writing, the municipal authorities of Leicester will provide the studious inhabitants with the means of educating themselves to decypher the ancient manuscripts which are the first sources and evidences of their famous town. In thus placing the people of Leicester in personal possession, as it were, of their Municipal Records, and giving them sufficient keys wherewith to solve the puzzles and master the difficulties of antique caligraphy, the Town Council will have taken a liberal and enlightened course. That the more intelligent and scholarly of the people will be quick to avail themselves of the advantage thus about to be offered to them can scarcely be doubted.

The following

TREASURER'S STATEMENT.

for the past year was next read and passed:—

Receipts.	£	s.	d.
1877.			
Jan. 1. Balance from old Account	27	16	7
Dec. 31. Subscriptions and Arrears received during the year..	117	0	6
Sale of Book ..	0	3	9
	£145	0	10
1878.			
Jan. 1. Balance	£39	1	2

Payments.	£	s.	d.
1877.			
Grant for Transactions, Vol. iv. Part 3	35	0	0
Williamson, Proportion of Annual Volume	43	0	6
Clarke, Printing, Distributing Publications, &c., &c. ..	8	4	3
Rent of Room one year ..	5	0	0
Expenses of Southwell Meeting	4	1	6
Barker, for Portfolio ..	2	12	6
Royal Archæological Institute	1	1	0
Advertizing	5	6	11
Secretaries, Petty Expenses	1	13	0
Balance	39	1	2
	£145	0	10

January 22nd, 1878,

Examined and found correct,

(Signed) THOMAS HOLYLAND,
Auditor.

The Committee for the past year was re-elected, with the addition of the Rev. Dr. Dickson, Mr. Samuel Bull, and Mr. F. T. Mott.

The appointment of officers by the Committee at the last meeting was announced, and Mr. Thomas North, F.S.A., was, on the recommendation of the Committee, constituted an Honorary Member.

The Rev. Giles T. Pilcher, of S. Margaret's, Leicester, was elected a member of the Society.

The following votes of thanks were unanimously passed:

To the Mayor of Leicester for the use of the Town Library for the meetings during the past year.

To the Press for their report of the proceedings.

To the Committee and Officers of the Society for their services during the past year.

SAINT ALBAN'S ABBEY.

Mr. James Neale, F.S.A., exhibited his series of grand drawings of S. Alban's Abbey, nearly two hundred in number, some of them

of large size. They comprised perspective views, elevations, and sections, worked to scale, and checked on the spot; also specimens of the more important details in stone, glass and wood. Sir George Gilbert Scott, R.A., recently pronounced these drawings to be "the most magnificent set of measured architectural drawings he had ever seen;" and Mr. G. E. Street, R.A., said of them, "They appear to me to be drawn with unusual care and accuracy, and they are of especial value as illustrating completely almost every portion of one of our grandest churches." Mr. Neale gave a short description of the drawings, which were hung round the Lecture Hall, and which excited much admiration. His remarks comprised a critical examination of the architecture of the magnificent church they so accurately and fully illustrated.

AN EVENING MEETING

Of members and friends was held in the same room under the Presidency of

The Rev. Canon Burfield, who, in opening the proceedings, said it was his privilege that night to introduce to them Mr. James Neale, F.S.A., to give to them a lecture on S. Alban's Abbey. He wished to say, on Mr. Neale's behalf, that he had prepared a really new lecture—not the one he delivered in London before the Royal Institute of British Architects, or the London and Middlesex Archæological Society; nor were the drawings the same as exhibited at the Society of Antiquaries of London and the Royal Academy of Arts. The drawings which adorned the walls of that room had never before been exhibited in their present form; they were a portion of the illustrations of a work on S. Alban's Abbey which Mr. Neale was about to bring out, and concerning which he could not do better than quote the words of one of the leading art critic Journals, in which it was stated that "The drawings are reproduced by photo-lithography, from Mr. Neale's originals; they are exquisite, and the work will form the most valuable volume which has appeared, illustrating one of our grandest churches." He was sure that he need not bespeak the careful attention of the audience to the lecture to which they were about to listen. There were two special reasons which seemed to commend Mr. Neale to a Leicester audience. First of all, he had a thorough acquaintance with the subject on which he was going to speak. If he (the Chairman) was rightly informed, Mr. Neale had spent some of the best years of his life at S. Alban's, and it would be true of him to say that he knew almost every feature and detail of the building from personal observation and study. And secondly, he need hardly commend Mr. Neale to their acceptance that night when he said that he was a native of the town of Leicester. He thought all who lived in Leicester ought to be proud of having a gentleman

belonging to them who had made himself so thoroughly acquainted with the details of the profession he had chosen; and although he (the speaker) had only just had the happiness and honour of making his acquaintance, perhaps he was not wrong in saying that it must have been amidst the streets of this old Ratæ where he lived, which was so full of archæological interest, that he, perhaps, originally imbibed his love for antiquarian research. He sometimes thought that they in Leicester hardly fully realized the worth of the old treasures by which they were surrounded. The town was full of interest to mere dabblers in these pursuits like himself. One could hardly walk in any part of Leicester without meeting with something to reward his research and observation. He then called upon Mr. Neale to deliver his lecture upon

FOUR PERIODS OF GOTHIC ARCHITECTURE IN SAINT ALBAN'S ABBEY.

In the outset Mr. Neale spoke of the rise of the town of S. Alban's owing to the foundation of the famous Abbey by Offa II., King of the Mercians, about the year 793. The monastery, which was one of the greatest of the Benedictine Houses, was dedicated in honour of the Proto-Martyr of England, and was erected upon the site of his martyrdom. Whilst the church remains unaltered in the main from its state in the sixteenth century, the conventual buildings are all destroyed with the exception of the gateway. S. Alban's was a church of the first rank, indeed in some of its dimensions it exceeded any of the English Cathedrals, the nave not only being the longest in the kingdom, but the longest in the world. Its tower was unique and beyond comparison with any tower of the date remaining in England. From an architectural point of view the church was especially interesting for a description of its details became a sort of history of English mediæval art. Students of architecture and antiquaries might trace in the building the various changes in architecture brought about by various influences during five hundred years.

The lecturer then proceeded to point out in detail, from his elaborate drawings on the walls, some work executed at S. Alban's at four different periods, viz., Norman work (*circa* A.D. 1100), Early English work (*circa* A.D. 1200), Decorated (a little later than A.D. 1300), Perpendicular (*circa* A.D. 1400 and thence to 1500), and to speak of the work so done under the following heads:—

1. Material. 2. Proportion. 3. Forms of Arches. 4. Subordination. 5. Mouldings. 6. Ornamentation.

The Lecture, which has been printed in the Reports and Papers of the Associated Societies, was listened to throughout with the greatest attention, and the lucid manner in which the details were presented elicited frequent applause.

Sir H. Dryden proposed a vote of thanks to the lecturer, and said there were a great many people who thought that all time was wasted that was not used in making money. He did not wish to say anything against their neighbours, or against the great trading communities of England, but there were people who took such a utilitarian view of everything that they thought all time expended on such buildings was utter waste, and that all the time that Mr. Neale had spent at S. Alban's had better been spent in making stockings and boots. That argument did not hold good for a moment, for an immense amount of money had been spent by those who admired these old buildings, and at S. Alban's £25,000 had been spent in restoring this great building; so that their stocking-making community were not quite right in saying that it was not a money getting thing. The renovating of these great cathedrals had been one of the many causes in the rise of prices and buildings. There were two classes of old buildings—those which were used, and those which were not used. Now with regard to those which were used there were three ways of looking at them—the picturesque view, the architectural or archæological view, and the utilitarian view. He must say that there had been more damage done to ancient architecture within the last forty years than in any period of its existence, by what was commonly called restoration. The utilitarian view taken by some people would lead them to disregard altogether these works as *ancient* buildings, and merely to keep them up for the use they were able to make of them. The archæologist, on the other hand, too frequently ignored the necessary use of them, and therefore the Society which had been started within the last year or two for the preservation of ancient buildings, by merely preventing so-called "restoration" without giving any consideration as to what use had to be made of them, had too much ignored the utilitarian view. The picturesque view was chiefly held by the ladies, the majority of whom desired to cover everything ancient with ivy. He was grateful to Mr. Neale for the labour which he had bestowed on this ancient building of S. Alban's. It was of the greatest possible importance that they should have accurate drawings of buildings before their restoration, or, at least, sufficient to enable them to separate the old from the new, and it was most fortunate that Mr. Neale began his work before the restorers began theirs. The drawings of S. Alban's Abbey were of the greatest possible value. Many of them had no conception of the enormous amount of labour it would take to measure and make the drawings of a building like this. There was not one of them who had not some interest in preserving these old buildings, and let them remember this, that whenever they destroyed or mutilated an old building they just rubbed out one line, or, it might be, twenty lines of the history of their native land. And just let them recollect this also,

that when they had done it there was no power of Sir Gilbert Scott or any architect in the world which could ever get it back again. They had had the honour of destroying a very interesting building in Leicester which he did his best to preserve, and the only thing he could do was to preserve it on paper,* which he did, and spent a good many weeks in doing it, and he had had the misfortune to have to do the same duty in Northampton, and, as usual, on the site of the ancient building a public-house had been built. He concluded by moving the thanks of the audience to Mr. Neale, and that the paper be printed in the joint volume issued by the Leicester and other Societies.

The Rev. J. H. Hill seconded the motion, which was carried with applause.

Mr. Nevinson having proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the meeting closed.

March 25th, 1878.

Mr. Thomas Nevinson in the chair.

A letter was read from Mr. North, F.S.A., thanking the Society for electing him an honorary member of the Society, and offering to edit for the Transactions certain letters addressed by Alderman Robert Heyricke of Leicester to his brother Sir William Heyricke, Goldsmith, of London, dating from 1590 to 1617. It was resolved that Mr. North's offer be accepted.

Mr. James Lawford of Leicester was elected a member of the Society.

Mr. Morley exhibited an elegant lady's Etui (*temp.* Queen Ann) of embossed gilt metal.

Mr. Thomas North, F.S.A., contributed the following Paper:—

THE PARISH RECORDS OF SAXELBY CO. LEICESTER.†

These consist of (in addition to the modern Registers) seven books, namely:—

I. A mixed Register of Births, Marriages, and Burials from the year 1538 to 1692.
II. A similar Register from 1692 1806.
III. A Register of Marriages and Banns for 1755 to 1812: also, on a loose leaf, Marriages for the year 1828.
IV. Register of Births and Baptisms from 1807 to 1812.
V. A Register of Marriages from 1813 to 1837.

* Sir Henry Dryden referred to the Hospital of William of Wyggeston lately destroyed.

† For an examination of, and extracts from these I am indebted to Mr. M. Pearson.

VI. A Register of Freeholders, &c., 1788.

VII. A Book of Constables' Accounts, commencing in the year 1726.

The earliest book dates from the year 1538. It was in that year that Cromwell, the Vicar-General, issued an Injunction commanding every Minister to keep one book or register for every parish church, "which book he shall every Sunday take forth, and in the presence of the churchwardens, or one of them, write and record in the same all the weddings, christ'nings and burials made the whole week before; and for every time that the same shall be omitted, shall forfeit to the said church iij^{s}. iiij^{d}."

This parchment register is in a fair state of preservation: some leaves appear to have been cut out of the book before the heading of the present register, and a few of the first existing leaves are loose and in disorder, but none are lost.

Although the book has every appearance of originality the first paragraph in the heading is probably of later date. It is headed:—

"Begun in 29th of Harry 8 the year before the Bible was printed and ordered to be set up in Churches in English."

"The regester of Saxulbie from the year of the incarnation of Christ 1538."

Amongst the first baptisms entered is Margaret Brookesby, the daughter of Anthony, baptized the 12th of November, 1539.

In 1608 Thomas Harte signs as "Minister."

In 1602 the sponsors are given:—

"Mary the daughter of John Anderson was baptized 21 January Godfather Thomas Warner Godmothers Bridget freeman & Sauce Gamble."

Amongst the first burials is Maud Gamble the 12th November, 1538.

In 1613 John Neale signs as Rector.

In 1643 "Edward Wilford Yeoman and Maria Simpson a mayde were marryed 30 of November."

In 1655 Elizabeth the daughter of Ursula Raymond "a begger" was baptized 19th of August.

In the same year "John Neale Parson of Saxilbie" was buried 25 Septr.

In 1656 Thomas Ludnum minister & . . . . . Needam were married the 9th of Feby.

In 1658 Mr. Noone minister was buried the 13th of November.

In 1660 the handwriting is that of a new Rector, who, in 1661, signs himself Robert Kirkby.

In 1680 is this entry:—

"*Viri verè sinceri vitaeq integerrime M^{ri} Roberti Kirby hujus ecclesiae annorum viginti spatio Pastoris Pientissimi* $\left\{\begin{matrix} anima \\ Corpus \end{matrix}\right\}$ *in* $\left\{\begin{matrix} Coelo \\ Solo \end{matrix}\right\}$ *Occluditur die* $\left\{\begin{matrix} 28^{o} \\ 30^{o} \end{matrix}\right\}$ *Augusti.*"

In 1680 Dorothy the daughter of Robert Hubbert and Elizth. his wife was buried Nov. 2nd "an affidavit being delivered according to the Act for burying in woollen." This, and many similar entries in the Register, points to an Act passed in 1666, and which came into force the 25th of March, 1667, "for burying in woollen" —professedly an Act "for the encouragement of the woollen manufactures and prevention of the exportation of moneys for the buying and importing of linen." The Act was much evaded, and the custom of burying in woollen gradually fell into disuse long before the Act was repealed in 1814.

In 1684 we find that Mr. Richard Butler and Mrs. Eliz. Halford were married on the 9th of April having first obtained a License.

In 1690 Mr. Thomas Bleay signs as Rector.

At the end of this Book is a notification signed by the Rector —Robert Kirkby—that on the 20th Septr. 1672, the sum of £10 being a legacy left in his last Will and Testament by "Mr. Matthew Noble of Wartnaby Gent" to the poor people of Saxelby was duly distributed by his executors.

The Second Book, dating from 1692 to 1806, is also of Parchment: it is, like the first, a mixed Register.

On the first fly leaf is the following remark written (judging from the writing) by the Rev. Thomas Taylor for some time Rector of the parish: it foreshadows the Officer of Health:—

"It is to be wished that Clergymen would insert in their Register Books what distemper each parishioner dyed of, that a competent guess might thereby be made what deseases are most rife or periodical in their several parishes, by which means they might shrewdly guess at the causes of them whether through the temperature of the air or other second causes and properly prevent them."

In 1692 "Mr. John Kirkby Clark" was buried 26th October, and an affidavit, &c.

In 1705 Thomas Simpson husbandman who hanged himself was buried 13 June.

In 1706 "Mr. Thos Bleay Rector of y^{is} parish" was buried 29th Dec.

In 1709 Samuel Saunders signs as Rector.

In 1710, after the words "per cessionem vacat" John Love signs till 1727, when the same words occur: then after four entries is found "Howard Rector obit."

In 1729 the Rev. Thos. Taylor signs as Rector, and in making the entries he occasionally notes the cause of death as suggested by him in the paragraph above, *e.g.* "feav^{r}" "quinzey" &c., &c.

In 1731 W. Cant signs as curate.

In 1737 "T. Parker Rector" signs at the foot of the page.

In 1764 "Mr. Thomas Parker Rector of this parish was buried 19 March."

In 1765 "Mr. Jn° Jaques" appears as Rector.

On the fly leaf is the following, apparently written by the Rev. Thomas Taylor:—

"Rectors of Saxelby as far as I could guess from the Register:—
Robert Jordain 1549 ob.
James Oxhere 1605 ob.
Thomas North 1613 ob.
John Neale 1655.
Thos Gregory 1656.
John Noone 1658.
Robt Kirkby 1680.
*Thos Bleay 1706.
Saml Saunders 1709 per cessionem vacat.
John Love 1727 per Cess.
Henry Howard 1728 obit.
Thos Taylor Per cessionem vacat."

The Rev. John Jacques appears to have added the words "Per cessionem vacat" to the last entry, and to have continued:—

"Thos Parker Buryed Mar. 19 1764.
John Jacques A.M."

To this list is added:—

"Patrons as tradition goes: Sir Thos Saxalby of Saxalby
Brooksy of Sholby 1520 and upwds
Englefields Barts
bought by Heneage Finch esq. as well as the son Rt Hon. the Earl of Aveland."

Also on a fly leaf at the end of this Register is:—

"Memorandum
if any dispute in Law should happen in after times concerning that estate which Mr. Robert Kirkby (formerly Rector of Saxelby) bought in Clawson and gave for ever for the use of the poor of Saxelby by his last Will and Testament bearing date 1680, That his Will is to be found in the Register of the Archdeacon's Court at Leicester where it was proved."

* Robert Jordan Clark was buried 18 Octr 1549.—*Par. Reg.*
James Orchen was buried 11 Octr 1605.—*Ibid.*
Thomas North was buried 21 Sep. 1613.—*Ibid.*
John Neale was buried 25 Sep. 1655.—*Ibid.*
Thos Gregory was buried 4 Sep. 1656.—*Ibid.*
John Noone was buried 13 Nov. 1658.—*Ibid.*
Rob. Kirkby died 28 Augt 1600.—*Ibid.*
Thos Bleay was buried 29 Dec. 1706.—*Ibid.*

Books III. IV. V. and VI. contain nothing worthy of note. The last named contain only two entries: Jasper Houghton signs as "Register Keeper."

Book VII. contains the Accounts of the Constable and Overseer of the Poor. They extend from the year 1726 to—with one or two slight breaks—1776.

William Marshall appears as Constable and Overseer of the Poor in the year 1726 when "this Book was bought and it cost 2*s*. 2*d*."

The entries are very miscellaneous in character, the great majority being, of course, of no interest, but a few may be quoted:—

1726.	Pd for my oath when I came in	0 . 1 . 0
	Pd for the pinder's oath	0 . 1 . 0

The entries for relief given to poor strangers are numerous:—

1726.	Given to 4 Seamen	0 . 0 . 6
1727.	Given to a disbanded Sholder	0 . 0 . 2
	Given to le'ster prisners	0 . 0 . 6
1728.	Given to two men for los by water	0 . 2 . 6
	Given to a pore man that had lost all his goods.....	0 . 0 . 6
1729.	Pad to 2 trauelers for a nite super and lodgin	0 . 0 . 6
	Pad to 2 Soulgers for a nite login.....	0 . 0 . 5
1734.	Given to a man with a leter of request ...	0 . 0 . 2
	Gave to the prisoners in Leicester Goal ...	0 . 0 . 6
	[This frequently appears.]	
	Paid for lodging a soulgar and wife and for eating	0 . 0 11
1741.	Paid Kate Pirkins for login a dum man ...	0 . 0 . 2
1752.	Gave a man with a pass	0 . 0 . 1
1755.	Pade for Logeneng of a woman and 3 Cheldren and vetelēn.....	0 . 0 10
	geven to 2 lame men and 2 cheldren	0 . 0 . 4
1760.	Paid Kitty for lodging a mad Bess	0 . 0 . 8

The relief of the poor of the parish is, as might be expected, often referred to:—

1730.	Pade for 5 hundard of Coles for Ann Greet	0 . 4 . 2

In 1739 "Goodey Higgins" put the parish to some expense:—

1739.	Spent for fetching Guddy Higgins from the windmill	0 . 1 . 0

There is no windmill in the parish now. The Overseer expended

small sums for the benefit of Goodey Higgins—for "butter, and rozin & bees-wax"—for "Tobacco and ointment"—for "Butter & ointment & Baccon"—for "ale and Beare for her"—for "bringing her shoes home," and for a new pair.

1754. Paid for 25 hundred of Coals for the poor 1 . 2 11

In 1756 Rose Kemp, being ill, received relief from the parish: sixpence was paid for "Bleeding Rose Kemp," and other small sums were paid for articles of clothing. She continued a charge upon the parish for several years: in 1758 is the entry:—

Paid the Dumb Docter for Rose Kemp ..... 0 . 4 . 0

Who was the Dumb Doctor?

In the same year are two charges for "bleeding Rose Kemp," entries for "Hemp Cloth" for her under linen, and "Lincey" for her gown; also

Paid for Phisick for Wm Stevenson ..... 0 . 1 . 0
Paid ye Doctor ..... 0 . 1 . 0

A moderate fee.

Rose was again bled in 1759, and two shillings was paid for "Doctering" her. She did not succumb until the year 1769, when we find:—

Spent at the Burel of Rose Cam..... 0 . 3 . 7

In 1760 is charged:—

Paid W^m^. Smith for Cockeyes Board ..... 0 11 . 0

Probably a nickname.

1764. Jane Barnes 11 hundred of Coles at one shilen and three pence a hundred..... 0 13 . 9

1773. A bottle of daffe's for harry Rutchoson ... 0 . 1 . 3

"Daffy's Elixir" was a very popular quack cough medicine.

We learn from a series of entries at the end of this book that in the year 1748 the parish built a house and furnished it for "the wife of one Robt Barrow a soldier:" the overseer spent 1*s.* "at the Raering"—that is for beer at the rearing of the roof—a custom hardly now extinct.

"The Statutes" was until recently a great holiday in Melton Mowbray; it was then that the lads and lasses from all the country round flocked into the town, those that wanted situations to be hired, those who did not to see the fun and their friends. They stood in the street on the east of the church to be inspected by those farmers and their wives who wanted carters, "plough-boys," dairy or house maids. The principal streets were full of stalls where "Grantham gingerbread," nuts and sweets abounded, whilst in the Market Place, and in other open spaces were "Shows"

and travelling theatres, where performances, not always of a very refined character, astonished and delighted the crowd. Formerly the constables from the neighbouring parishes attended, as the police did at a later period, to keep order, and, I suppose, to look after the thieves, rogues, and vagabonds, whose description had been already forwarded to them in the "Hue and Cry," and who might be tempted by the hope of plunder to resort to the annual revelry. There are many charges of one penny or two pence for the "Hue and Cry." In 1726 and 1727 the constable charges 5*s.* for "charges at ye Stattises." Twenty years later the constable still attended and charged one penny as "Paid to the musick at the Statutes." Shortly after he became more extravagant for he not only gave sixpence "for Musick" but also two pence for "nuts." During the last few years domestic servants very properly preferring a different mode of offering their services, and of meeting those requiring them, the Statutes has lost its attractions and fallen into disuse.

On the 5th of November the Church Bells were rung and a few shillings spent to commemorate "Guy Fawkes:" they were also rung on the King's Coronation day, on the 11th of June—Midsummer day old style—and upon other occasions of rejoicing.

Many charges appear for work done in, and for other matters relating to, the open fields of the parish before its enclosure.

1727.	fore days worke for setinge of the pen for the Coues.....	0 . 1 . 4

Several payments for "gos" for the Cows' pen.

In 1728 the pinfold wall was repaired.

1732.	Paid to Goodey dean for ale when we made the stint.....	0 . 2 . 0

The stint determining, I suppose, the number of cattle each person should turn on the common fields.

	Paid Mr. John Cart for making the stint	0 15 . 0
1733.	Spent at Parkinses at laying out the sheep walks	0 . 5 . 0
1741.	Paid for a Brand to brand the Cows	0 . 1 . 0
	Spent when we branded the Beasts. Paid for pitch.....	0 . 0 . 9
	Spent when we counted the beasts	0 . 1 . 0
	Paid Wm Stimson for setin quick for hegin and dikin & cutting thorns	1 10 . 6

A contagious distemper attacked the cattle in 1746, and appears to have lingered in the parish for three years: the following entries refer to it:—

1746.	Paid for making a slead to draw the Ded Cows on	0	1	0
1747.	Spent of Mr. Malin for giving the form of the Certificate for the Beasts	0	0	6
	Spent of Mr. Fox of Kerby when we gave him the Certificate	0	0	8
	Paid Mr. Fox (of Kerby) for carrying the Certificate to the R^{t} Honble Lords of His Majesty's Treasury and bringing his Majesty's Bounty money for the Cattle which died of the Contagious Distemper that raged among the horned cattle	0	10	0
1749.	Paid Jno Brewster for helping Jno North digg the grave for the cow	0	0	6

and 1*s*. was paid for burying the cow.

This disease among the cattle was general throughout the country: its cause and cure was then, as now, little understood. A Yorkshire rhymist thus wrote:—

"No Christian's bull or cow they say,
But takes it out of hand,
And we shall have no cows at all
I doubt within this land!

"The doctors, tho' they all have spoke
Like learned gentlemen,
And told us how the entrails look
Of cattle dead and green,

"Yet they can nothing do at all
With all their learning's store,
So heaven drive out this plague away,
Nor vex us with it more!"

1757.	Paid Jno Burgess for Trenshing in Deepdale	0	12	0
	Paid D^{o} for Trenshing in the Goss 129 acres at 4^{d} per acre	2	3	0

A large acreage must have been covered by gorse: some of it was in process of being grubbed up in 1747 when sixpence was "spent with John Stokes when he p^{d} two guineas to be Quit of grubing the goss."

The parish was enclosed in 1765: about that time are many payments about "the Common Work":—

1763.	Ale for the Common Workmen	0	12	4
1765.	farst wick in June 28 men at Commend work	10	18	8
1766.	five men at Commond work	0	3	4
	fore teams at Common work	1	0	0

Several payments occur in the early part of the Book for mending "the Coal cart road."

The crusade against the sparrows was here, as elsewhere, at that time very vigorous :—

1732. Paid Billy Gamble for sparrows ..... 0 . 0 . 8
and many like entries.
1733. Paid Jn° Musson (and others) for 15 doz. of sparrows ..... 0 . 3 . 0
1747. Paid for 20 dozen & a half of sparrows ... 0 . 3 . 5
and 14 dozen more were paid for.

An entry occurs in 1756, which, I suppose, should hardly be whispered in our fox-hunting county :—

P^d for 5 foxes ..... 0 . 2 . 6

I presume that the Saxelby people passed toll free through "the Melton Gate :" a charge occurs occasionally for a list for the toll gate, and at the end of 1754 we read :—

> "A List of the names of the inhabitants of the parish of Saxelby is to be delivered to the tole bar keeper at Melton Gate before the 14th Day of May 1756 hereof fail not att your Perill."

Other extracts of a similar nature to those already quoted might be given, but that is unnecessary; indeed it may be said that those already selected are too trivial for note. This, however, can hardly be the case, for we glean from them, amongst other things, as to how the affairs of a small country parish were managed before the present Poor Law Act and Police regulations came into force. Any authentic information as to these, although it be conveyed in the bald entry and bad orthography of a country constable, should not be beneath the notice of an archæologist.

THE LETTERS OF ALDERMAN ROBERT HEYRICKE OF LEICESTER 1590-1617.

A Contribution to the Transactions of the Leicestershire Architectural and Archæological Society.

By Thomas North, F.S.A.

During an inspection by a visitor of the numerous memorials of the dead in S. Martin's Church, Leicester, the upright slabs

arranged within the north chapel, or Herrick's chancel, will not be overlooked; one at least, by the ancient form of its characters and the quaintness of its diction, will certainly challenge observation. It reads thus:—

Here lyeth the bodie of John Heyricke, of this parrish, who departed this life ye 2 of Aprill, 1589. beinge a bout ye age of 76, he did marry Marie ye daughter of John Bond of Wardend in the Countie of Warwicke Esquier who liued with ye said Marie in one house full 52 yeares and in all that tyme neuer buried man woman nor childe, though they were sometimes, 20, in household, he had yssue by ye said Marie, 5 sons and 7 daugh ters bz: Robert, Nicholas, Thomas, John and William; & daughters Ursula, Agnes, Marie, Elizabeth, Ellin, Chris tian & Alice. The said John was Maior of this towne in anno 1559 & againe in anno 1572. The said Marie depar ted this life ye 8 of December 1611 beinge of ye age of, 97 yeares, Shee did see before her departure of her children & children's children & theire children to the number of 142.

This John Heyricke was by no means the first of his family established in Leicester and in Leicestershire, for it had possessed at an early date an estate at Great Stretton, and at a later period one at Houghton on the Hill. From that place Thomas, the son of Robert Eyrick, removed to Leicester late in the fifteenth or very early in the sixteenth century. He prospered, and filled some important offices in the town, but died early, leaving two sons, Nicolas and John, the former being then about fourteen years of age, the latter a child of about four years old, and a daughter of a still more tender age. Nicolas, like his father, was a leading man in the Leicester of that day, attaining to even higher honours, for he was Mayor in 1552, an office which his father never filled.

His brother John Heyricke (after being admitted to the Merchants'

Guild in 1535) married (as we gather from his epitaph just quoted), when he was about twenty-four years of age, Mary the daughter of John Bond, Esq., of Ward End or Little Bromwich in Warwickshire. We are told that he brought his young wife to the family house in the Market Place, Leicester, which he had then purchased of his brother Nicholas. This house stood at the corner of the Cheapside, and there he carried on his business of an ironmonger. In that house his twelve children were born, and in that house he most probably died, after having lived a life of much domestic happiness, singularly free from the anxieties and bereavements so frequently attending a large household, and after having filled the office of chief magistrate in his native town twice during a period of many national changes, political and religious.

Of his sons Thomas and John we need not say more than that a letter from each will be found in the collections which follow these introductory notes.

Nicolas his second son, born in the year 1542, was at an early age (when he was about fourteen years old) apprenticed to a goldsmith in London—possibly to one of the Orpwood family.* He subsequently established himself in the same business at a house in West Cheap known by the sign of the "Grasshopper," from whence, in 1584-5, he supplied the Corporation of Leicester with a new mace, towards the cost of which he himself contributed forty shillings. The transaction is thus recorded by the Chamberlains of the Borough in that year :—

> Item paied to Mr Nicholas Heyricke of London, Goldsmith, for a new mace of sylver, all gilte, wayinge xlij ounces and a half at viij^s^. vj^d^. the ounce, the sylver makinge & gyldinge comes to xviij^li^. j^s^. iij^d^. ffor gravinge the armes therein xxx^s^. & for a case for it v^s^. Soe all the wholl comes to xix^li^. xvj^s^. iij^d^. whereof deduckted, geven by the said Nichas Heyrick xl^s^.
>
> The some payed is..... .....xvij^li^. xvj^s^. iij^d^.

William, the youngest son of John Heyricke and his wife Marie, was born in the year 1557 (?),† that is fifteen years subsequently to the birth of his brother Nicolas to whom we have just referred. In 1575 he was in London as an apprentice with that brother to the trade of a goldsmith, and in 1582 he was still with him, for his father then wrote to him desiring him to be diligent

* In 1608-9 Mr. Rob. Orpwood, goldsmith, supplied a silver and gilt cup to the Corporation of Leicester.

† His tombstone, in S. Martin's Church, Leicester, says he died on "2^d^ March 1652 aged 96."

to please his master and mistress, "though he be your brother, & she your sister-in-law."*

In, or before, 1590 Mr. William Heyricke had commenced business on his own account his address then being "gooldsmyth at the Rose in Cheapside," and a few years subsequently, in 1602-3, we find him supplying plate to the Corporation of Leicester. The business of a goldsmith in those days, before the establishment of the modern system of Banking, combined with it many of the features of that profession. In the letters which follow we shall find many allusions to the lending and transmission of money—cattle dealers and others were always ready to avail themselves of the facility and security offered, by which they could pay their money into a person's hands in London and receive it in the country, or *vice versa*, on the production of a written order, or as we now say a draft or a cheque: a sample of this document will be found amongst the letters under the date of 12th November, 1594.

Mr. Wm. Heyricke's success in his career was great and rapid: in 1595 he bought that beautiful estate at Beaumanor, which has ever since been in the hands of his descendants, and which again fortunately brought him and his successors into close intercourse with Leicester. He shortly after that event married Miss Joan May, the daughter of Richd. May, Esq., a citizen of London, and sister of Sir Humphrey May, sometime Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster. Mr. William Heyricke soon became a freeman of Leicester, presenting the Mayor with a "dosson of sylver spoones" as his fee. In 1601 he was elected one of the members of Parliament for the Borough: about that time he was "ambassador from Queen Elizabeth to the Porte."† In 1605 he was knighted by James I., and in that year was again returned to Parliament: he held an office in the royal jewel house, being called by the Chamberlains of the Borough "The King's Ma^{ts} Jueller" in their accounts for 1603-4, when they presented him with a complimentary present of white and claret wine with sugar and nutmeg: he was a Teller of the Exchequer at about the same period: in fact he had then become a most important personage in London—one of the many influential men who met daily in the nave of S. Paul's Cathedral to transact their business—one of the great capitalists and the court banker of the day, whose monetary transactions were large, and extended far and near.‡ Owing no doubt to the good principles instilled, and the good, honest, and straightforward example always before his eyes, in his Leicester home, his prosperity did not weaken his domestic

* Nichols iii. p. 623.

† See Epitaph to W. Herrick, Esq. (obit 1773) in Woodhouse Church.

‡ See Nichols iii. pp. 150-157 for much information as to his monetary transactions.

affections or his public spirit; the former was evidenced by the never forgotten tokens of his kindly remembrance which were regularly transmitted by him from London to his country relations, and by the unhesitating way (which always met with as quick a response) in which many of them applied to him in any emergency for his advice and assistance; and the latter is no less evident from the free and ready use of his great influence to further the public interest of his native town on many important occasions: all this will be clearly deduced from the collection of letters shortly to be given, and which letters render further remarks upon these characteristics superfluous in this place.

In or shortly before the year 1613 he removed to Wood Street, to which address his London letters were after that date directed.

After his purchase of Beaumanor he came down frequently into Leicestershire to visit his new property, and to enjoy the shooting. He took much pride in improving the estate, in planting fruit and other trees, and in adding to the comely decency of his parish church there, as several existing memorials of his can still testify. In 1616 he presented to the town of Leicester the portrait of Sir T. White,* one of its worthies and benefactors, which is still preserved in the Town Hall, and in 1620 he was elected for the third time its representative in Parliament. Whenever he visited Leicester the Mayor and his brethren were not slack in testifying the respect they felt for him and their high appreciation of the benefits he had conferred upon the town. In 1621-2 the Chamberlains charge in their accounts:—

> Item payd for a gallon of wine & suger given to Sr William Hericke and his Ladye at the Angell the xxxi^st^ July ..... iiij^s^. vj^d^.

and similar entries occur upon other occasions.

When Sir Wm. Heyricke finally retired from the busy scenes and duties of his London life to the more peaceful and tranquil enjoyments of Beaumanor Park I cannot with certainty say, but it would most probably be when he gave up his seat in Parliament in the year 1623. From that time to the date of his death in 1652-3 he appears to have passed his time chiefly in the country, a not distant neighbour of his native town which he loved so well, and surrounded by all that could make a revered and respected old age thankful and happy.

The portrait of Sir Wm. Herrick when he was thirty years of age hangs in the Leicester Town Hall: it was painted, as the date upon it testifies, "An. 1594," but when and how it came into the possession of the Corporation remains to be told. He was buried near the other members of his family in S. Martin's Church,

* See *Chamberlains' Accounts.*

Leicester, where his memorial stone is still preserved. The beautiful estate of Beaumanor has, since Sir Wm. Heyricke's death, been held by six other Wm. Herricks (his descendents) in succession, the last being the late Wm. Perry-Herrick, Esq., whose memory, fragrant with many princely deeds of public munificence, and with still more numerous untold acts of private kindness, will long live in the remembrance and gratitude of his Leicestershire neighbours.

We must now turn from this the youngest son of the John Heyricke whose epitaph we quoted in the opening lines of these remarks, to Robert, his eldest, who was born in the year 1540. He was brought up to his father's business of an ironmonger. He married Elizabeth Manby, a neighbour's daughter, and in due time succeeded to his father's business, occupying the house and shop already referred to as standing in the Market Place at the corner of Cheapside.* He had a large family—two sons and nine daughters. He was thrice Mayor of his native town (in 1584, 1593, and 1605), and at all times took an active and disinterested part in public matters. Much of this will be gleaned from his letters in the collections which follow these remarks. He was during the latter part of his life the constant correspondent and agent of his brother Sir Wm. Heyricke, for whom he had a strong brotherly affection, and to whom he delighted to communicate the news of passing events in the town of their early home—a habit doubtless thoroughly appreciated and enjoyed by the younger man amidst the din and turmoil of city life. Alderman Robert Heyricke died in 1618, and the following quaint inscription on an upright slab is to be found near to that of his father's in S. Martin's Church, Leicester:—

Here lyeth the bodie of Robert Herick
Ironmonger and Alderman of Leicester
Who had been thrise Maire thereof.
Hee was eldest son of John Herick and Marie;
And had 2 sonnes and 9 daughters by one wife,
With whom he lived 51 yeares.
At his death he gave away 16 pounds 10 shillings
A year to good uses.
He lived 78 years
And after dyed very godly the 14th of June 1618.

All flesh is grass; both young and old must die;
And so we pass to judgment by and by.

* That this was the residence of Alderman Robert Heyricke, and of his ancestors in Leicester, is shown by the late Mr. James Thompson in his Paper on *The Herrick Portraits*, Vol. ii. p. 43 of the *Transactions of the Leicestershire Architectural Society*.

His portrait hangs near to that of his brother Sir Wm. Heyricke in the Leicester Town Hall; upon the picture are these lines:

His picture whom you here see
When he is dead and rotten *
By this shall remembered be
When he shall be forgotten.

The last representative in a direct line of Alderman Robert Heyricke—the late Wm. Heyrick, Esq., of Thurmaston, Leicestershire,—died a few years ago.

As before remarked Alderman Robert Heyrick was a constant correspondent of his brother William Heyrick the London goldsmith. The Leicester Market Place of that day, with its antique buildings, and its elm trees in the centre, around which were seats where neighbours could, on a summer's evening, sit in the shade and gossip over the events of the day, wore a very different aspect to that presented by its now animated appearance. Looking upon that scene from the windows of his house, the Leicester Alderman had both leisure and inclination to write freely and frequently to his younger brother in the metropolis. He wrote about business—the receiving, paying, and transmission of money in the way in which modern banking was then foreshadowed—he wrote about horses, upon a knowledge of which the Alderman evidently prided himself; about local events, in all of which both brothers took an interest; and about local persons well-known to each. After Sir William had purchased his Leicestershire estate that became an object of interest to both, and Sir William's consequent closer connection with Leicester as its representative in Parliament, and "very good friend" at Beaumanor, afforded many topics for correspondence.

Sir William Heyrick preserved much of his correspondence, and when he came to reside permanently at Beaumanor he removed it there, together with books of accounts, and other manuscripts. There the letters were seen many years afterwards by Mr. John Nichols, when he was compiling his History of Leicestershire, and many of them were incorporated by him in that valuable work. Some of the letters addressed from Leicester by Alderman Robert Heyrick were, however, either overlooked or intentionally omitted by our county historian. To that fact the attention of the Leicestershire Architectural and Archæological Society was called

* This appears to have been a common phrase at this time. When a dispute had arisen in the year 1600 between the glovers of Mountsorrel and the Corporation, the latter contesting their right to sell their goods in the town without becoming residents according to an ancient charter, and the Attorney General had been engaged to prosecute the suit of the Corporation, Mr. Parkyn wrote to the Mayor saying that some persons had sneered at the charter as being "only fit to stop mustard pots," but he believed it would be good when such persons were "dead and rotten."—*Thompson's History of Leicester*, p. 310-11.

by his grandson, the late Mr. John Gough Nichols, F.S.A., in a Paper on "*The Heyricke Letters*," read at Leicester on the 5th December, 1860 (see *Transactions*, vol. ii. p. 11.), at the close of which the writer said that, in his opinion, it would be difficult to find either in print or still in manuscript, a more interesting series of domestic correspondence than this of Robert Heyrick, the old Alderman of Leicester, and thrice Mayor thereof.

As a consequence of that opinion much correspondence took place between representatives of the Leicestershire Society and Mr. John Gough Nichols and Mr. Perry-Herrick, and certain resolutions were passed by the Committee of the Society (on 21st July, 1861, and on 31st March, 1862), in favour of the publication of the series of letters under the editorship of Mr. J. G. Nichols, but the necessary risk of expense attending the project caused it to be put aside.

Subsequently, and after the death of Mr. J. G. Nichols, Mr. Perry-Herrick placed the whole of that gentleman's transcripts in my hands, expressing his own opinion to be that as large portions had already appeared in the *History of Leicestershire*, it was not desirable to reprint the whole, neither did he think that the interest attaching to some was sufficiently strong to warrant their publication. He was, however, good enough to leave the matter with me to deal with as I thought best. These transcripts and the letter accompanying them were received by me only three days before the lamented death of Mr. Perry-Herrick. That event caused me to put the whole matter aside until the early days of this year, when, after carefully reading the transcripts, I was constrained (whilst fully recognizing the interest of many of them as laid down by Mr. Nichols) to incline to the opinion expressed to me by Mr. Perry-Herrick that their publication *in extenso* is hardly called for or warranted by the contents of the whole. I arrived the more readily at this conclusion from the fact that I find the great majority of the letters are already printed in the *History of Leicestershire*, and though there are doubtless a few clerical errors in the transcripts there given, it is doubtful whether those errors are of a sufficiently important nature to call for a reprint.

Doubtless had Mr. J. G. Nichols lived a few years longer, and had been enabled to carry out his intention of publishing a volume based on these Letters to illustrate the Life of a Midland Town 250 years ago, his work would have been a valuable one, possessed of much local interest.

Mr. Nichols, however, left these transcripts in such a form that they could readily be made useful to the student of local history and of local customs and manners. He first prepared a calendar or table of contents of the whole, giving the date of each letter, and the salient points in its contents, and marking the reference to the *History of Leicestershire* in cases where the letter has been

already printed in that work. Mr. Nichols next copied the Letters themselves (and a few others not written by Alderman Robert Heyrick but illustrating those that were) from the originals at Beaumanor. It will thus be seen that Mr. Nichols' labours in this, as in all his literary work, were of an eminently practical and painstaking kind, and they prepared the way for the utilizing of the material over which he must have spent much time. In order to do this in the way I considered the most useful and best adapted for the purposes of this Society, I (with the entire consent and approval of Mrs. Perry-Herrick) have recast the whole of Mr. Nichols' material into the form in which the collection now appears. The letters are given according to date: those that have already appeared in the *History of Leicestershire*, with the date, the reference to where they are given in that work, and a brief summary—somewhat, in some cases, more extended than as given in Mr. Nichols' calendar—of such of the contents as is clearly necessary to explain or add interest to others that precede or follow; those that have not been already printed are given *in extenso* when they are of sufficient interest to warrant it, and where the contents are not of a purely private nature.*

I add this introductory preface in order to give a brief history of the origin of the Letters, and to tell how entirely we owe the labour of their transcription to Mr. J. G. Nichols. In deference to that gentleman's opinion, long ago expressed to me, I have modernized the orthography of Alderman Robert Heyrick. To the whole I have added such explanatory notes—and for these I am, of course, myself responsible—from contemporaneous documents as will tend, I hope, to give interest and cohesion to the whole.

It will be observed that the Letters commence in the year 1590, shortly after the death of their father Mr. John Heyrick, and continue until the year 1617, about a year previous to the death of Alderman Robert Heyrick the writer.

LETTERS

Written by Alderman Robert Heyricke, of Leicester, to his brother Sir William Heyricke, of London, Knight.

[1590.] "Leicester the 26 of October 1590.

"This bringer in no wise may come without a letter now nor hereafter. I must commend him to you as one whom at his return I purpose, God so willing, to make him my son. The day

* It is quite possible that some of these latter letters may also be found scattered in Mr. Nichols' folio volumes, and so the fact of their being here printed may have escaped the notice of his grandson. I have not been able to test that in all cases.

of marriage if God permit is appointed the x of November, which was my own marriage day, now (come that day) 23 years. I do with all my heart wish yourself with all my especial friends here at that time, but I have no hope of any of your coming, for that it is so far off, and winter being come upon us, yet I must entreat you that you will do so much for me as to speak to my brother and my sister,* my Cousin Furnor and his wife, and to whom you think good. And that you will take upon you to be a bidder in my behalf and to afford unto Mr. Sacheverell† your friendship wherein you may stand him in stede . . . . . .

Thus I commend you to the Lord

Your loving brother
R Heyricke

To his loving brother
William Heyricke
goldsmith at the
Rose in Cheapside
dd."

[Seal: arms of Bond.]

[1590, Nov. 2. Respecting the payment of £100. to John Hall, Auditor of the Duchy of Lancaster at the Angel. Sir Henry (Hastings) like to be his near neighbour.‡]

[1594]:—

"This is to desire you to pay unto this bringer Mr. Richard Barwell the sum of six score thirteen pounds vj^{s}. viij^{d}. as soon as you may after the sight hereof

Your loving brother
Robart Heyricke

Leicester ye xij of
November 1594
Received of Mr. William Heyricke six score thirteen pound vj^{s}. viij^{d}. according to this letter, by me

Richard Barwell"

To his loving brother Mr.
William Heyricke
goldsmith at the
rose in Cheapside
} dd."

[Sealed with the arms of Bond.]

[1594-5.] "Leicester the 22 of March 1594-(5).

I hope you have received your new gelding ere this. Although he be not in every respect to my liking, yet I hope he will bring

* Nicolas Heyricke, goldsmith of London, and his wife. Nicolas Heyrick was the father of Robert Herrick the poet.

† See Appendix, Note A.

‡ At the Abbey: he afterwards lived in the Newarke.

you well down. I have been, and am, and will be to the utmost, careful to find out a diamond* for you, which as the dyer said, money should not break us, but I cannot hear of him yet. If your letter had not come for Mr. Bainbrigge, my brother Stanford† should have proved Stamford fair and possibly shall do yet: in the mean time fear not this for travēl he is old enough.

Mr. Lisle Cave hath been with me twice or thrice about the letter herein, which I can give him no comfort in, but only to send his letter, which I pray you do shape an answer at your convenient leisure.

I have sent up by Henry White this bringer 40 pair of good worsted hose tied together in 4 bunches, which I pray you sell for me for 12 pounds or else lay them up in your press. I cannot afford them less.‡ All the rest is for Mr. Crowther, whom I pray you send for, and let him receive them himself, but let Mason keep my bag to bring them down again, and I do not only look for you that I may have sufficient parley with you, but I do also earnestly desire the same, for my coming to London requires no great haste, till May day be past, and you and I have much to be said.

Let me hear presently from you, if you will have me to send my man or one wench to look at your house in your absence.§ You shall be discharged of her soon as you think good again, but Bess is true penny, as good a body as lives

Your faithful brother during life
Robart Heyricke"

To his loving brother Mr.
William Heyricke at
the rose in Cheapside
dd"

[Seal: the arms of Bond.]

[1595-6, January 9.] *Vide* Nichols, vol. ii. 635.

Enclosing the copy of a letter addressed by Henry, late Earl of Huntingdon, to Edward Smyth, bailiff of Loughborough, and of Smyth's receipt for £180. 10s. 0d.

[1598-9, February 26.]

Addressed to Mr. Giles of Bosworth, and the answer signed "Theo. Chauncye alias Giles."

* A diamond of a gelding, as we still say, "a perfect jewel of a horse."
† Mr. John Stanford married Elizabeth the sister of the Alderman.
‡ See Appendix, Note B.
§ Sir William Heyricke purchased Beaumanor this year (1595).

[1606-7, January 5.] *Vide* Nichols, vol. ii. 625.

Thanking for new year's gifts "2 great bags of grocery and spices, for which as well for our own as also for the parson of Houghton,* my wife and I give you most hearty thanks." . . . . . "I thank you for your news of your Parliament matters" . . . . . and many other matters.

[1611. The following was written from Wardend in Warwickshire, the residence of Robert Heyrick's relations the Bonds†]:—

"I received your letter of the 7th of August, but since that time I could not write unto you by reason my man hath not gone home until now, I thank you for it. I can write nothing from hence, but only that we are in a fine place, where we have many fine walks, catching of good fish, and eating of it when we have done. I sent your commendations to my mother the last time I sent home my man and she was after the old manner, and I have now appointed my man to remember you to her again.‡—

I can write you nothing of the state of our Town; the last time I hear there died that week 15.§ Myself, my wife, and both my daughters that be here, commend us in all kindness to yourself, my Lady, and the rest of our good friends, beseeching God to keep you, and us, and send us good meeting. From Wardend this 22 of August 1611

Your very loving brother
Robart Heyricke"

To the Right wor[ll] his very
good brother S[r] William
Heyricke Knight at
his house in
Cheapside
dd"

[Seal: arms of Orpwood, 3 crosses moline, on a chief, 3 boars' heads couped: in chief point a mullet.]

* His son, the Rev. Tobias Heyricke, B.D., instituted to the Rectory of Houghton on the Hill, 17th September, 1605, on the presentation of his father Robert Heyrick. He died there as Rector in 1627—Nichols writes of the inscription on his flat tombstone as being defaced.

† His mother was Mary the daughter of John Bond, Esq., of Wardend, Warwickshire.

‡ Mrs. Heyricke died 8th December, 1611, aged 97 years. See the curious epitaph on the joint gravestone of herself and her husband in Heyrick's Chancel, S. Martin's Church, Leicester, quoted on p. 109.

§ The fearful outbreak of the Plague under which Leicester was now suffering lasted for about a year—From June, 1610, to about the same month in 1611—during which time hundreds of the inhabitants were swept away by it. In a list of visited houses given in a Certificate from the Mayor and others, dated 31st March, 1611, is found that of Mr. Thomas Sacheverell, Alderman Robert Heyrick's son-in-law, near the New (or Wigston's) Hospital, of which he was, as before stated, Confrater. (See Mr. Kelly's "*Visitation of the Plague at Leicester*," pp. 24-34).

Alderman Robert Heyrick gave twenty shillings to the town in that year (1610-11) towards the "buildinge upp of the pest house for y[e] vizited people" which the authorities found it then necessary to erect. (*Chamberlains' Accounts in MS*).

[1611.] "The 19th of October 1611.

This day, and not before, John Allen hath brought me £55, and I have given him his bond which you sent me. And this day Clement Foulds hath brought me £60 to return to you, which I would very willingly had him returned himself, but he could not. About Harborough fair, here was great store of money to be returned, and now I cannot hear of any. My Lord Grey* hath a great deal to return, and others, but cannot at this time return it; wherefore if you can by any means in Smithfield or otherwise take up so much, I had rather it were with you than with me. The sum I have received of them this day is £115 whereof I must abate £20 that Mr. Bradshaw received, and so remains to you £95. I sent up and down on Saturday, and have spoken with divers, but cannot have any promise.†

Mr. Harrold and I shall dinē together upon Monday at my son Sacheverell's and then I hope to know something of his mind what he meaneth to do, for as yet I cannot learn whether he will part with the thing or not.‡ I purpose to send my man up with him, who will be at London about Thursday night next. In haste with my hearty commendations I end, your loving brother,

Robart Heyricke"

To the right wo^{r}
his very good
brother Sir William
Heyricke Knight
at his house in
Cheapside dd." [Seal: arms of Orpwood.]

[1611.] "Leicester the 22 of November 1611.

I have been once again disappointed of carriage of your former letter§ as you perceive by the date; the first week my son Andrew appointed to go himself, but seeing the weather fall out so foul went not, but promised to send his man on Monday last, and I having your letter ready and one other thing for him to do sent my man on Sunday night to him, and he was gone at noon. So on Monday, when I came from Mr. Mayor's feast, I found your late letter in my hall board; but no such news as Mr. Walter Hastings told me at dinner, which was that he had a letter over night from London, that gold was risen by the King's Commandment, but in what sort I understood him not, but would be glad to understand

* Of Bradgate.

† These remarks shew the difficulty then experienced by these early Bankers—for such they were—in transmitting and receiving money.

‡ Some estate on sale.

§ There was then no regular post for private letters: they were sent by carrier, or by the hands of any neighbour or friend going up to, or coming down from, town.

the truth by you how it is, for of (on) Friday s'night I was told that silver would be raised 2[d] in every shilling and yet I was so desirous to hold Mr. Halford for the payment of you, that I sent him as you see £50 which if I knew any such matter to come very shortly he should tarry for the rest till he had paid you, that should be your advantage. Therefore I pray you write the certainty what you know or can hear of that matter, so soon as you may; and we hear that my good lord* is gone to London about privy seals,† I fear we shall hear of them too soon.

I have set down the £140 as you do require And thus commend you with my lady to the Allmighty

Your loving brother
Robart Heyricke."

[1612, April 8.] *Vide* Nichols, vol. ii. 625. No. 6.

Having been very sick of late asks for some Pomegranates,‡ can get never a one in these coasts. This letter is headed "Emmanuel."§

[1612, November 21.] *Vide* Nichols, vol. ii. p. 625. No. 8.

"Here hath been such heavy news that when we should have been merry with Mr. Maior at his feast we could not tell whether better to feast or fast." . . . Death of the Prince of Wales. Matches proposed for Sir William's eldest daughter. "You did make mention of young Ashby, but Thomas Stanford, who you know is a man very pregnant and also willing to deal in such matters, says that he hath no liking now to the soil at Quenby, for he is a suitor to a gentlewoman in Nottinghamshire; but I have thought of one in Leicestershire and that is young Halford of Welham. His father Mr. William Halford was last year high sheriff of Rutland,

* Perhaps Lord Huntingdon.

† Query for borrowing money on loan for the Government.

‡ Mrs. Mary Heyricke, the mother of Alderman Robert Heyricke, writing to her son William in London under date of 1578, says: "And this is to give you thankes for my povndgarnyte and red heayrings you sent me, willinyng you to geve my daugther Havss thankes for the povndegarnyte, and box of marmalette that she sent me."

§ The placing of a sacred name or monogram at the head of a document or letter was not at all unusual at this date. Thus we have "I.H.C." at the head of the Accounts of the Churchwardens of S. Martin's, Leicester, for the year 1545; at the head of the Accounts of the Churchwardens of Melton Mowbray made in the third year of Edward VI. is the word "Jesus," and at the head of the Accounts of the Chamberlains of the Borough of Leicester for the year 1578-9 we find, as in the case of the above letter of Alderman Heyricke, the word "Emmanuel."

This custom is curiously referred to by Shakespeare in his Henry VI. (part ii. act 4. sc. 2):—

"*Jack Cade*:—What is thy name?

Clerk:—Emmanuel.

Dick:—They used to write it on the top of letters: . . . . ."

Some remarks upon this custom will be found in my *Chronicle of the Church of S. Martin in Leicester*, p. 91.

a very honest gentleman and one that will not make brags of more than he will do, but rather keep him within his compass and do more than he will say . . . . ."

[1612-13, March 24.] *Vide* Nichols, vol. ii. p. 635. No. 4. (Partly printed.)

Respecting parting with his business, and some Leicester Abbey lands near Danet's Hall, which were offered for sale by Sir Henry Hastings.

"Pyed Lincoln" (a horse) has grown very vicious and killed three pigs.

[1613.]

"I received your letter of the 10 of this present, and where you say you were deceived if you did not write some news of late to me, I received not a long time—I am glad to hear you have placed my cousin* William so well at Oxford . . . . . ."

(The writer urges the getting in certain monies, "I pray you delay it not for 'delays breeds daunger.'")

. . . . . Leicester this 17 of May (1613)

Your loving brother

Robart Heyricke"

[1613, May 28.] *Vide* Nichols, vol. ii. 636*. No. 6.

Written on his return from Brimegam (Birmingham) Lichfield and Cank-wood.

[1613, June 8.] *Vide* Nichols, vol. iii. p. 625. No. 7.

Further account of his pleasant ride in Cank-wood and about horses. "Touching our progress and our business into the frontiers of the counties of Warwick and Staffordshire, I would you had been with us, you would have thought it a pleasant journey, especially to fall out in Whitsun week when we should have been tied to our scarlet, and keeping of solemn feast days† when you know that such youths as I am do more delight in the pleasant woods of Cank &c. to hear the sweet birds sing, the hammers go and "betells" [? batlets] in the paper mills at the same place also for him that hath got most of his wealth for this 50 years or near that way; and now to find as good iron as was there this 40 years, as good weight, as good workmen, as honest fellows, as good entertainment, what would you have more . . . "

* See Appendix, Note C. † See Appendix, Note D.

[1613, June 23.]

On private business.

[1613.] *Vide* Nichols, vol. ii. p. 636*. No. 7.
(Partly extracted.)

"The wind being come about to the south west, the moon new changed, and I hope fair weather set in, it is so calm and fair that I do marvel I hear nothing from London no . . . nor any speech of your coming, having so good company as you might have had, for yesterday here was my lord Candish* and his lady, who lay at the Angel, and dined yesterday at [the] abbey with Sir Henry.† And a sort of 'gallons' [? gallant] that came with them, but no speech of you and therefore I did think it not amiss to signify somewhat unto you that Clement Foldes hath been very careful of the matter, and being loth that you should come upon suddenly, and find no provision in the buttery, hath with my advice loaded from here this day one pipe, one hogshead, and two vessels brought from home with I hope good beer, brewed by George Brooks, which Clement and I both do think to be a better way than to have brewed it at Beaumanor, your brewing vessels and other things being not used of long time before

. . . . . (the writer refers to trespassers in the forest)

. . . . . .

If you have any fear of bringing Mr. Harwar's money down in your "caroche" by cause my man was robbed by the way do leave it in your counting house, for I have more here for you than I hope you will use whilst you stay here.

My kindest commendation to your self and my lady done, I leave you to the protection of the Lord.

Leicester the 9 of July
Your loving brother
Robart Heyricke.

To the right wo^{r} his loving
brother Sir Wm Heyricke
Knight at his house
in Wood street."

[1613, July 13.] *Vide* Nichols, vol. ii. p. 626. No. 11.

About a motley spaniel and horses: Sir William coming from London to shoot partridges. "For your motley spaniel he is fair and fat and is ready at your commands. God send the partridges as ready that they may meet together and we meet them . . ."

* "Itm given to the Ringers for Ringing att the comynge of the Lorde Candishe to the Angell in Leicester xij^{d}."—*Chamberlains' Accounts*, 1612-13.

† Sir Henry Hastings.

[1613, October 13.] *Vide* Nichols, vol. ii. p. 626. No. 12.

On money matters—a portion only given by Nichols.

[1613, October 25.] *Vide* Nichols, vol. ii. p. 626. No. 13.

Thanks him for "your other news of the placing and shifting of those great persons [? statesmen] 'which for my own part' says Mr. Mayor, 'I shall be content do what they will'" . . . . and on money matters.

[1613, October 29.] *Vide* Nichols, vols. ii. p. 627. No. 15.

Respecting the preferment of his son Tobias.*

[1613, November 5.] *Vide* Nichols, vol. ii. p. 627. No. 16.

On money matters. "I thank you for my staff. I will keep it for [in remembrance of] you as long as I live by God's grace."

[1614, January 12th.]

"I must needs confess that I am now far behind, not only for letters, but also for matters which should have been enrolled in them, and chiefly and especially for your great pains and care for your late good will in our town business;† for which you have not only won Mr. Wadland and his Co-partner that was with him, but also by their means and mine making it known to the whole company they will never forget your pains and kindness.

And for your ordinary good will in feasting of the Hawes, and Tyces, the Stanfords, the rest with "the Withringtons and Dowglasses and Percis,"‡ all redounds to your immortal fame; and though we will not whit imitate you, nor come near you, yet in country wise, and homely manner, we have celebrated the feast of Nativity in the best sort we can. I had a fat doe sent me of (on) the Even and when we had according to ancient custom gone over all our neighbours and tenants, that being done comes over Mr. Samuel Clarke, parson of Kingsthorpe 2 miles of (on) this side Northampton, and M^r^ of the new Hospital called Wigston's Hospital and one Mr. Henry Clarke his elder brother who is recorder of Rochester and dwellest there, a Councillor of the Temple, and by report a very good lawyer and a proper man. These two came to see my daughter Dorcas, and to ask my good will of her, Mr. Henry being procured by his brother to take so long a journey at this time of the year, and had not time to stay, but must presently return into Kent, and back again to the term.

* See Appendix, Note E.

† Probably an allusion to the purchase of the Grange, which will be referred to again presently.

‡ An obvious allusion to the popular ballad of Chevy Chase.

Good liking of all sides, for if I shall bestow her of (on) a clergyman, I do think of his years I shall hardly find his equal in England, an excellent preacher, very wise, and likely of great preferments, he is great with Sir Thomas Parry,* my lord of London's Chaplain and in great favour with the Metropolitan. If you talk a few of any time with Mr. St. Saviour he will tell you as much of them as any I know, and I pray you do, and let me but hear two words after from you, and if you have occasion to use a lawyer as I know you have, if you do but make trial of the said Mr. Henry I think you shall find him both learned and careful of your business. And so commending all these matters to Him that ruleth all, I cease to trouble you further at this time

. . . . . .

Your ever loving brother
Leicester the 12 January 1613-(4) Robart Heyricke"
To the right wo^{r} his loving
brother Sir William
Heyricke Knight at
his house in Wood street
dd." [Seal: the shield of Heyricke.]

[1613-14, January 20.] *Vide* Nichols, vol. ii. p. 636.

Clement Foulds has been with Lord Grey and met Mr. Matthew Babington, touching sheep taken in the Forest.

[1613-14, February 3.]

Chiefly on business matters: "I have put over both my shops and all my wares to Whatton to enter at that time" [Lady day] . . . "with desire of your prayers to God for Mr. Mayor who is in great danger, and fell sick the 23 of January, even as he was putting his hand to the bonds for Sir Wm. Smith's two last payments."†

[1613-14, February 22.] *Vide* Nichols, vol. ii. p. 636*. No. 9 and latter part in vol. i. p. 341.

About planting an orchard with crabs, pears and plums, and an approaching election of members for the town: Sir George Hastings and Sir Henry Rich proposed.‡

* Sometime Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, to which office he was appointed in 1607. He died in 1616, *vide* Nichols' Leicesters., i. 546.

† In 1614-15 there was considerable fear of another outbreak of the Plague in Leicester which, however, was happily not realized. Doubtless a sudden illness, like that which seized the Mayor, would raise much apprehension until its nature became known.

‡ "Itm recd of Henrye Riche Esquier (Seconde Sonn of the righte Honorable the Lorde Riche) for his ffreedom v^{li}. And thereupon hee chosen to bee one of the Burgesses of the Parlyament for the Boroughe of Leicester in stedd of the righte Worshipfull Sr Willm Skipwith Knighte deceased v^{li}. (*Chamberlains' Accounts*, 1609-10.)

[1613-14, February 26.] *Vide* Nichols, vol. ii. p. 627. No. 18 and vol. i. p. 341.

Respecting the promotion of Toby and Sir William's advances for the place of burgess for Leicester, and the other candidates.

[1613-14, March 13 (?).] *Vide* Nichols, vol. i. p. 341.

Chiefly respecting the election at Leicester.

[1613-14, March 23.] *Vide* Nichols, vol. i. p. 341.

More about the town election and that for the shire.

[1614, April 13.] *Vide* Nichols, vol. ii. p. 628. No. 24.

About Mr. Berry and other matters. "For money if any come in my iron chest shall be surety for it" . . . "My wife gives you most hearty thanks for your seeds. She hath given them to the ground from whence they came" . . .*

[1614, May 10.] *Vide* Nichols, vol. i. p. 341.

Thanks Sir William for his pains for the town causes.†

[1614, May 14.]

A short note sent by the hands of Mr. Hood of Groby Park.

[1614, May 24.]

Rumoured sale of the Newarke Mills.

[1614, May 27.] *Vide* Nichols, vol. i. p. 342.

Respecting the Newarke Hospital.‡

[1614, June 9.]

Thanks for concluding his daughter's business. White nag sent to Oxford to Wm. Heyrick. This letter was sent by an apothecary of Leicester named Henshaw.

"Leicester the 29 of June 1614.

It is now so long since I heard from you, which was not since the Parliament ended and the term, and then you had your

* Sir William Heyrick appears to have been in Leicester about this time: the Chamberlains make a charge in their accounts for the year 1613-4 for wine, sack and sugar given to "Sr Wm Heyricke Kn^{t} the Towne of Leicester's verie good frende" on the 17th of April.

† See Appendix, Note F.

‡ See Appendix, Note G.

advantage of sending every man coming downwards, and now I having the advantage of so many going upwards should accuse myself of negligence if I should neglect that which I desire of others, but I hope by my son Sacheverell I shall hear all . . .

. . . . . .

So with hope of your health with my lady and all your breed with the rest of our good friends which God continue to his good pleasure. I thank God we are all well but Dake* who hath had an ague this seven weeks, and never went forth of doors and hath brought her very weak.

I have nothing to send you from my daughter nor myself but two or three cheeses of the Friars breeding: wishing the eldest may be first eaten: the others will mend the while.

Thus praying you to let one of your people fetch them at our younger King the carrier, with my hearty prayers to the Lord for your health and prosperity I take my leave for this time

Your loving brother
Robart Heyricke."

[1614, September 14.] *Vide* Extract in Nichols, vol ii. p. 627. No. 19.

Sir William had been at Bath. The King at Leicester. "Mr. Dackman† came not to Leicester although I had made the best provision for him I could and would have by my good will have placed him in the high form; but seeing that would not be, I was forced to place my Lord Walden‡ in one [chamber?] and Sir Humphrey May§ in another . . . . I provided a good breakfast the next morning, and was in hope to have had them both, but I could get neither of them. The King went not into the forest, nor yet to see his new land, but so soon as he had broke his fast away to Dingley that night."

[1614, September 25.] *Vide* Nichols, vol. ii. p. 627. No. 20.

This letter sent by the hands of Mr. Wincoll the Counsel. "We have ventured of [on] Mr. Bonnet‖ (as Mayor) for the year to come, and though Mr. Manby hath striven hard this year to reform strong ale, yet Mr. Bonnet saith, it is a good refreshing to a poor man to have a cup of strong drink, though he have but

* His daughter Dorcas.

† Mr. John Daccombe was afterwards Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and a Knight.

‡ Theophilus Lord Howard of Walden.

§ Sir Humphrey May was the brother of Lady Heyricke the wife of Sir William. He was shortly afterwards Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, and subsequently Member of Parliament for Leicester.

‖ See Appendix, Note H.

little meat and for his part he will not deprive them of it, but if he meet them at George Brook's* he will take part with them say against it this year [they that] will."

[1614, November 7.] *Vide* Extracts in Nichols, vol. i. p. 342, and vol. ii. p. 628.

Francis the cook of Beaumanor had a pitiful journey: he was eight days coming from London to Leicester: mentions the death of his sister Hawes:† thanks for a copy of sermon done by his godson . . . "So soon as a fine frosty morning comes of my good day‡ I will walk and see Black Annets bower where I hear Mr. Russell hath ploughed up a great deal of ground and sowed it with corn" If Sir William sends trees he will form a nursery at Beaumanor, and plant them where those had flourished which Sir William had sent him 34 (?) years before. "This day is my lord Greys funeral kept at Bradgate."

[1614-15, January 2.] *Vide* Extracts in Nichols, vol. ii. p. 628, and vol. i. p. 342.

Celebration of Christmas . . . . "You write how you received my letter of [on] St. Stephen's day, and that, I thank you, you esteemed it as welcome as the 18 trumpeters, which in so doing I must and will esteem yours, God willing, more welcome than trumpets and all the music we have had since Christmas, and yet we have had plenty store both of our own and other ever since Christmas. And the same day we were busy with holding up hands and spoons to you out of porridge and pies, in the remembrance of your great liberality of fruit and spice which God send you long life to continue, for of that day we have not missed any St. Stephens this 47 year to have as many guests as my house would hold; I thank God for it."

Cup given by Sir William to Mr. Attorney of the Duchy of Lancaster.§ Complaints of his health. "I have got such a pain in my hip bone and bottom of my back which I got with moving of trees standing on the moist ground|| that I would not ride the easiest nag in England to Beaumanor for £100—"

* A brewer of beer: the same from whom the Alderman had purchased beer for Beaumanor, see p. 123.

† Ursula Heyricke married James [Nichols says "Lawrence"] Hawes, who was Lord Mayor of London in 1574.

‡ The Alderman was subject to intermittent ague.

§ "Pd to Mr. Gibbons for a deep basson ffor Mr. Aturney..... 10 . 11 . 8."
Sir W. Heyrick's Account Book, fo. 70.

|| "1614-15 Feb. Pd to Simond Stringer for trees sent downe into Leicester ..... 5 . 16 . 0."
Sir W. Heyrick's Account Book, fo. 70.

[1614-15, January 19.]

A short note on business matters.

[1614-15, March 21.]

Chiefly about the difficulty in obtaining horses: he had enquired "amongst all the butchers and others that were likeliest to do the feat" but could only get one: and he had sent to Beaumanor to see "if for love or money we might obtain one palfrey." "Your beer is ready and tarrieth for you.* And so doth divers others that would take your parsonage and coppice, but, as said the Welchman, we'll tarry till it come."

[1615, April 4.] *Vide* Nichols, vol. ii. p. 628. No. 24.

Respecting New Parks: a tame rabbit.

[1615, May 8.] *Vide* Nichols, vol. ii. p. 628. No. 25.

Sir Thomas Holt (not Hill) and cousins Harvey and Kinersley: tenants have paid their rents: Dovecote at Beaumanor is finished and a great store of young hearnes [herons] there.†

[1615, August 24.]

Inquiring whether he had safely returned to Wood Street. "We have all prayed devoutly for your safe and prosperous journey, and good arrival at the port of great Woodstreet."

[1615, November 20.] *Vide* Nichols, vol. ii. p. 628. No. 26.

"I thank you for your late letter which was dated the 9 of November and for your news therein. Mr. Walter Hastings hath had a sore sick fit and sending to me to know if I had any late news from you, I being not well myself I got my son Sacheverell, to go shew it (*i.e. the letter*) to him, which he took very kindly and did him great good.

"I wrote to you presently by Henry Stanford, but I know he is none of the *Hastings*‡ in delivering, nor no kin to the *Manors*‡ in performing what he doth promise. He hath promised to leave some money to you, but if he do not he deals no worse than he had wont to do . . ."

The remainder of the letter relates to money matters.

[1615, November 29.] *Vide* Nichols, vol. ii. p. 628. No. 28.

The Earl of Northampton who it was said died here in England reported to be still living in Spain: a poisoned banquet to be sent to England: invasion threatened by Spinola,§

* Beer was brewed at Beaumanor when its master was expected.

† See Appendix, Note I. ‡ A play upon the words.

§ See Appendix, Note K.

[1615, December 20 (not November 20).] *Vide* Nichols, vol. ii. p. 628. No. 27.

Acknowledgment of a present, probably of spices, &c., and mentions a horse load of young trees sent to Houghton, *i.e.* to his son Tobias.*

[1615, December 26.] *Vide* Nichols, vol. ii. p. 629. No. 29.

Acknowledges letter written by his "cousin" Richard.† "Am sorry to hear that you are under either Physician or Surgeon's hand: I pray you take heed and be not too busy with them, for I am informed that it is only a cold, and will go again with keeping your head warm." The writer had been unwell "and yet this day‡ I thank God all heart again and have had thirty or more at dinner and with wine and sugar, and hands held up so high as we could we remembered Wood Street, and though we can do no more, yet in our prayers, in our spoons, and in our cups we do not forget you when time serves." Negociations for his daughter's marriage with Mr. Babington. Intimation of the Manor of Wanlip being for sale.

[1615, December.]

Respecting the proposed marriage between Mr. Babington and his daughter. . . . "but such a cold wooer as I never knew, that he hath half lost the bride's favor. When he comes as he hath done many times, he salutes her but as he doth her sisters and very seldom useth any further speech with her, nor never gave her token but a little sorry ring . . ." . . . "You know how poor and beggarly the country is, and that those that do live best, live nothing like to citizens of London though they be not of the richest sort . . ." So he would prefer either a merchant, a goldsmith, or any good tradesman for his daughter if Sir William could "spy out a likely man."

[1615-16.]

"Your crediting of me in saying that I keep always touch with you encourageth me that I may not let this bringer nor either of our carriers go without a ticket, and especially till all this business be done. I thank you I received your last letter dated on Christmas day at night, and do give you hearty thanks for the same, as also for your books you sent therein which I hope the reading of them will do many good.

* See Appendix, Note L.

† His nephew Richard Heyricke, one of Sir William's sons, was afterwards Warden of Manchester.

‡ S. Stephen's day: see before p. 128.

I cannot speak with the party yet that should bring this purchase to be sold, but assure yourself I am no more forgetful of it than I wish you to be of the other matter as you see occasion, and as you do I pray you certify me.

I am in the same case you were in last week. I cannot by any means hold down my head to write, but it is nothing but a cold, which we are all infected with, for we are ten under our roof and all troubled with it, and such coughing in the church that the like hath no been heard.

Here was one this day from Woodhouse which came hither of purpose to enquire of you, for it was reported there that you were departed, but I cleared the matter, for I did certify them that I had a letter of your hand since that rumour was raised which I told them a dead man could not do . . . . . .

. . . . . .

Leicester the 1 of January 1615 (-16)
Your very loving Brother
Robert Heyricke."

[1615-16, January 8.] *Vide* Extracts in Nichols, vol. ii. p. 629. No. 32 and vol. i. p. 299.

Resignation of the Earl of Worcester as master of the horse. "And that our country man* had his patent sealed on Tuesday last." About the Blackfriars at Stamford and the Wanlip estate.

[1615-16.]

"I thank you for your late letter which I received by Thomas Bradshaw which though it were short yet it was sweet; for I protest unto you that if it be but half so much paper as that and your name in it of your own hand, it greatly rejoiceth me. And so much for answer of that letter.

And now by the way I am entreated by my daughter Walker† to write unto you, but I pray you in any case let not that be offensive unto you; for if I thought that should I would not for the value of it move you in it. She hath got with much ado £150 into her hands, all her husband's debts paid, and it should be £50 more when she can get it in. This £150 she would fain, if it may stand with your liking, put into your hands to allow her £9—per annum once a year, and think herself much beholden unto you. If you think it not well to do it, I pray you pardon my boldness in writing, and write me but yea or nay.

I could put it forth for 10 [per cent.] for twenty-four years with good assurance but I dare not do so, lest she over living that time, should say as the old gentleman which you told me of

* Villiers, afterwards Duke of Buckingham.
† Hester Walker, daughter of the writer.

said. If you be pleased to do her that favor I pray you let Richard take up so much as soon as he can, and I will pay it at sight, and the six months shall end at St. Michael, and so after always so long as you please at St. Michael.*

I thank you very heartily for giving Richard leave to find out a master for Simon,† which I hope in God we shall have cause to thank you and him both for it. Though the way and weather be bad, yet because Bradshaw says that if he come not this journey, his master will take another therefore I have sent him with my prayer to the Lord that he will bless him, and so no doubt but he will do well, to which God I commend you and all yours, and with all our 10,000 commendations I end

Your loving brother,
Robart Heyricke."

Leicester the
17 of January."

[1615-16, January 23.] *Vide* Nichols, vol. ii. p. 629. No. 33.

More on negociations with Mr. Babington, "thus as though I were walking with you in Pauls, a turn and a turn."‡

* See Appendix, Note M. † His grandson Simon Norrington.

‡ That is walking backwards and forwards in S. Paul's Cathedral and there discussing all these matters personally. The Nave of S. Paul's Cathedral was at that time used as a *rendezvous* for business men and for gossips. Fuller describes "one Mr. Wiemark" as a wealthy man . . . "and constant *Paul's Walker*." (Bailey's *Life of Fuller*, p. 65.)

"In the first year of Philip and Mary, the common Council of London passed an Act which shows the degradation into which S. Paul's had sunk even before the fire. It forbad the carrying of beer casks, or baskets of bread, fish, flesh, or fruit, or leading mules or horses through the Cathedral, under pain of fines and imprisonment. Elizabeth also issued a proclamation to a similar effect, forbidding a fray, drawing of swords in the church, or shooting with hand gun or dagg within the church or churchyard, under pain of two months imprisonment. Neither were agreements to be made for the payment of money within the church. Soon after the fire, a man that had provoked a fray in the church was set in the pillory in the churchyard, and had his ears nailed to a post, and then cut off. These proclamations, however, led to no reform. Cheats, gulls, assassins, and thieves thronged the middle aisle of S. Paul's; advertisements of all kinds covered the walls, the worst class of servants came there to be hired; worthless rascals and disreputable flaunting women met there by appointment. Parasites, hunting for a dinner, hung about a monument of the Beauchamps, foolishly believed to be the tomb of the good Duke Humphrey. Shakespeare makes Falstaff hire red-nosed Bardolph in S. Paul's, and Ben Jonson lays the third act of his *Every man in his Humour* in the middle aisle. Bishop Earle, in his "Microcosmography" describes the noise of the crowd of idlers in Paul's "as that of bees, a strange hum mixed of walking, tongues and feet, a kind of still roar or loud whisper." He describes the crowd of young curates, copper captains, thieves, and dinnerless adventurers and gossip-mongers. Bishop Corbet, that jolly prelate, speaks of

"The walk,
Where all our British sinners swear and talk,
Old hardy ruffians, bankrupts, soothsayers,
And youths whose cousenage is old as theirs."

Old and New London, vol. i. p. 244.

[1615-16, January 26.]

Further on the Babington business: he would not have removed apricot trees at that time "for Tusser holds it dangerous to remove often, and so you shall find."

[1615-16, February 6.] *Vide* Nichols, vol. ii. p. 629. No. 34.

The upper part of this letter is lost. It relates to Wanlip, the Friars and Mr. Babington.

[1615-16, February 27.] *Vide* Nichols, vol. ii. p. 629. No. 35.

Dorcas tired of Mr. Babington's delay would prefer a marriage in London. Commends her as "virtuous, wise, housewifely."*

[1616, April 3.] *Vide* Nichols, vol. ii. p. 630. No. 36.

"Shear Thursday"† mentioned: walked out of Leicester to meet Sir William but disappointed.

[1616, April 26.] *Vide* Nichols, vol. ii. p. 630. No. 37 and 38.

The treaty with Mr. Babington still unsettled.

[1616, April 27.]

After writing on business matters, "and so for money matters and now to love matters:" more on the Babington subject follows.

[1616, May 8.]

"I have no more to write this week than I had last week, only that you will, if you think good, let Richard try some of the butchers in Eastcheap or elsewhere if any of them that come down to Rowell‡ Fair will leave you £150 or what you can receive by them, for I cannot return any but many come to me of the other side to leave money with me to have it in London. I needs must convey this letter enclosed to you from my brother Thomas, who though since Christmas he could hardly afford you a good word, yet you may see his good nature that he would be loth that any good bargain should escape your hands. He comes to me three or four times a day to tell me of it, and what a good bargain it may prove.§

My head is not well, being my ill day, and therefore having no

* I do not find that Dorcas Herrick ever married.

† "Shear Thursday," the Thursday in Holy Week usually now called Maundy Thursday. See North's *Chronicle of the Church of S. Martin in Leicester*, p. 80.

‡ Rothwell, Northants. § See Appendix, Note N.

better matter to work upon with my kindest love to yourself, and my lady with all our good friends in general I do commend you to the protection of the Allmighty. Leicester the 8 of May 1616

Your loving brother
Robart Heyricke"

To the right Wor his very
good Brother Sir William
Heyrick Knight at his
house in Woodstreet
dd."

[1616, May 22.] *Vide* Nichols, vol. i. p. 342.

After referring to some money matters the Alderman gives a curious account of a Whitsuntide sermon preached at the Hospital in the Newarke,—"And now to let you understand that according to your desire there was a sermon preached in the Newarke on Monday the 20th of May, by Mr. Sacheverill. His text was out of Matthew the 25th, *When I was hungry you gave me meat.* And he did not only learnedly but also zealously, handle the same. There was warning given to both our companies [*i.e.* the Aldermen and the Councillors] to meet Mr. Mayor at the hall at 9 of the clock and so to go down with him to the Hospital; which we did, and had a tilt set up against the wall of the Hospital, along the chancel, and forms next to the wall for the better sort, and divers other before them toward the long alley where at the side of the alley the pulpit stood. His voice was very well heard, and it held fair all the day without any rain.

"But the old saying is Where God builds his church, the devil will build his chapel;* for, by what means I will not say, but all they of the Newarke absented themselves, and all the gentlemen in the town not one of them only Mr. Wadland; and yet there was gathered at the going forth of the Newarke Gate £5. 12s.—which made them 12d. a piece which was presently distributed amongst them. In the midst of the sermon came one of Sir Henry [Hastings] his men to sergeant Beswicke and bade him tell Mr. Mayor that my lady sent him word that Sir Henry was not well, and that he should not carry up his mace as he went forth of the Newarke. Notwithstanding we did carry it. Sir Henry hath got a stomach against Mr. Maior, and seeks to be revenged by any means he may. As God would we had sent to the Bishop of Lincoln for his allowance, which by good hap we had under his hand which if we had not they would surely have complained presently to him . . . ."†

* This proverb was, and is, a very general one; it is current in Germany, France, Italy, Poland, and doubtless in other countries (see *Notes and Queries* 5th, s. ix. 439).

† See Appendix, Note O.

[1616, May 29.]

After writing upon money matters—the debts of Mr. Brooksby, Mr. Hood, and Mr. Greene—the Alderman writes thus about horses:—"Now to the matter of a pretty gelding for your saddle which I think Richard willed me to spy out for you. This day one Fullwood, who did serve Mr. Ashby of Quenby, and deals with a pretty gelding sometimes, came to show me a very pretty one, scarce so high as the white gelding you rode on the last year, as well paced and easy going as may be by his saying, but 6 years old, well made and clean of his legs, milk white, with some small spots of [on] him, his price £10., or if you will have him whilst he is unsold he shall be sent you up to bring you down, and if you like him not of his price, you must give him 10s. for his journey and deliver him safe again.

. . . . . .

Your loving brother
Robart Heyricke."

To the right Wor his
very good brother
Sir William Heyricke
Knight at his house
in Wood street
dd.

[Seal: arms of Heyricke.]

[1616, June 12.] *Vide* Nichols, vol. ii. p. 636*. No. 10. Partly extracted.

The death of Sir Thomas Parry (Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster), but has no doubt God will provide a better. Differences with neighbours in the Newarke respecting the Mastership of the Hospital. That busy fellow Gib* is turned from us and Sir William's assistance is requested to recover him.

[1616, June 19.] *Vide* Nichols, vol. ii. p. 630. No 39 for part of this letter.

Gests of the King's progress and news of his dining at Alderman Cockins: purchase of horses: Mr. Babington's business still deferred: "Thus troubling you with vain posies I end . . ."

[1616, July 1.]

"I received no letter this week from you yet I thought good to signify unto you that I have received of [on] Saturday last £62 of Clement Foulds and he says he will bring more as soon as he can get it in. Touching the cup which you wrote of for Mr. Chancellor

* See Appendix, Note P.

I read your letter as you required to divers of the Elders being with Mr. Mayor, and though we be in poor estate yet they give you great thanks for your care of us, and are very willing to perform that [you] do think well of. And to that end have partly sent up this bringer Mr. Chamberlin Coles, who I pray you in any case let him be with you at the delivering as though he brought it of purpose from Leicester.* For other matters which I wrote last unto you I need not nor cannot say anything until I have your answer of that letter which as yet I have not.

Thus with my kindest love to yourself and my lady done, I end, commending you both with all yours to the blessed protection of the Almighty. Leicester this 1 of July

Your loving brother
Robart Heyricke."

To the right Wor his very
good brother Sir William
Heyricke Knight at his
house in Wood street dd." [Seal: arms of Bond.]

[1616, July 18.] *Vide* Nichols, vol. ii. p. 471.

Extraordinary account "about the arraignment of a sort of woman witches, which nine of them shall be executed at the gallows this fore noon, for bewitching of a young gentleman of the age of twelve or thirteen years old, being the son of one Mr. Smyth of Husbands Bosworth, brother to Mr. Henry Smyth that made the book which we call Mr. Smyth's Sermons."†

[1616, August 27.] *Vide* Nichols, vol. ii. p. 630.

This letter is signed by Robert Heyricke, Elizabeth Hericke,‡ Susanna Hericke ("my brother John his wife") and Elizabeth Orpwood, and was apparently written on Sir William's return to London after one of his summer visits to Leicestershire: it begins "I hope you are safe arrived at the brave haven of this kingdom."

[1616, September 11.]

A letter earnestly remonstrating with Sir William upon some offence he had taken with regard to "a reckoning" of accounts . . . "I must confess that my head doth wax weak in keeping of reckonings, and is far more troublesome to me than it hath been,

* See Appendix, Note Q.

† Some years before "old mother Cooke" had been hanged in Leicester as a witch. See Nichols' *Leicestershire*, vol. ii. 891, for an account of witches at Northampton. Eighteen persons are said to have been executed as witches at Bury (Suffolk) in the year 1645.

‡ The Alderman's wife Elizabeth Manby.

but I pray you conceive no worse of me than you would have me conceive of you. . . . . We are brethren, saith Abram to his brother Lot and therefore we must bear one with another. . . . . .

Leicester the xj of September
Your loving brother till death
Robart Heyricke."

[1616, October 15.]

"I received your letter yesterday dated the 10 of October, for which I thank you heartily for, for I thought it long since I heard anything from you, for any news I have but from you, I account it but uncertain; I am desirous to signify unto you of the witches but it must be in my next, for they be but this day as I am informed examined before Mr. Mayor and the Justices and Doctor Lamb in our Town hall, and to morrow I shall know the substance of the matter and then you shall hear how the matter goes with them. . . . . [about money matters] . . . . . So with my love and heartiest salutations to yourself and my lady done, I leave you to the most Highest

Leicester the 15 of October
Your loving brother
Robart Heyricke."

[Additional matter is added, by way of postscript, about his prodigal grandson,* who appears to have come down from London where he had sadly misbehaved himself; he sends the youth back and begs Sir William to "speak to his master and give the rogue good counsel for he is a wicked imp."]

"Since the writing of this above the under sheriff by a warrant directed to the high sheriff hath set the five witches at liberty, the sixth is dead in the Gaol."

[Seal of Heyricke.]

To the right wor his loving brother
Sir William Heyricke at his
house in Wood street dd."

[1616, December 17.]

"I received your kind letter of [on] Saturday morning by Thomas Bradshaw, and your friendly token, and one other for the parson of good Houghton, which presently I sent him by his man,† all the rest was as you appointed delivered by the carrier at the same instant, and for them all generally and severally we render all possible thanks, and will not forget you, God so willing, in the

* Simon Norrington. See former letter of 17th January, 1615-16.
† See Appendix, Note R.

cup nor the spoon; I am sorry I have not any good thing to make some part of requital, but have sent into Cheshire for some cheese for you, which if it come not this year, will come in the beginning of the next, which I pray God prove so good as I wish it. I can but still grieve to think of your trouble with that lewd boy* whose heart God turn, and bring him to a better mind; but what course soever you take for him, or whatsoever you do with him, shall not only content me but I shall acknowledge myself much beholden to you for it. I would to God he were well placed far from you. Here is our Mayor an honest man, and one that of late hath had his eldest son in Norwich Gaol about a robbery, and as I hear he is very lately got forth of the Gaol, and have packed him over sea. All the time my brother Manby was in office he kept him either in Bridewell, or in the Gaol. And thus hoping to hear shortly from you that you shut your hands of him I end for this time, commending you with my lady and all yours to the blessed protection of the Almighty, who I beseech to bless you, and us all, and send us a merry Christmas.

This morning about nine of the clock, as I was coming forth of my chamber, the bells at Saint Martin's very suddenly rung 'acord'† and presently word was brought me that the fire was a [at the] Friars, and presently word came that it was a kiln of Robert Ereks adjoining to the Friars, in a very dangerous place, where great store of corn and hay lay near, but, the Lord be praised, it was quickly quenched.

Leicester the 17 of December
Your loving brother
Robart Heyricke.

My cheese man is come since I finished my letter. I have sent you three of them, wishing they were better. I pray you accept of them till God send me some better thing. The carrier is paid.

To the right Wor his very
good brother Sir William
Heyricke Knight at his
house in Wood street dd."

[1616-17, January 26.]

"I thank you for your letter of this 20 of January which I received by Bradshaw, with your fine lemons and oranges which I am sorry you should send so many, for all I care for is only an orange for the pill and not otherwise. I did send up and down all day but could not find one of Woodhouse to send your letters to Richard of [on] Saturday,‡ but I did send for the trees to my

* His grandson Simon.
† "Auker" *i.e.* backwards, to give notice of a fire.
‡ To Beaumanor.

house and to-morrow I will send both the maund and trees, by one of purpose, to Richard. I have sent your books to my son Sacheverell, and my son shall understand of your pains to [with] Doctor Parker . . . . . .

. . . . . .

Leicester the 26 of January,
Your loving brother
Robart Heyricke."

1616-17, March 18.]

"I received your 2 letters of [on] Saturday, and sent them to Richard and do doubt that your bad guest is not yet gone because I hear nothing of him. I hope I shall hear some good news from you by brother John, for commonly he will see the last man born before he come out of London. I am very loth to trouble you with any new matter before you be discharged of the old trouble, and yet I do know that we are not born for ourselves, but to do good to others and I have none to make bold with but you . . . . . [Incloses a letter about his son Rogers'* business] . . . . . .

Leicester the 18 of March
Your loving brother
Robart Heyricke"

To his Right Wo^r and his
very good Brother Sir
William Heyrick Knight
at his house in Wood street
dd."

[1617, March 31.]

Inclosing a letter from his cousin Pearson: respecting his son Rogers' business: "I hope Sir Walter Raleigh is going shortly."

* George Rogers, clerk, husband of the Alderman's daughter Ruth.

APPENDIX.

Note A, p. 117.

The Rev. Thomas Sacheverill, the bearer of this letter, was Confrater of Wigston's Hospital, and succeeded Mr. Pellsant as Town Preacher about the year 1588, and was instituted as Vicar of S. Martin's in 1614. At a Hall holden on the 8th of August, 1588, it was agreed that he should receive yearly as Town Preacher £13 6s. 8d.: shortly afterwards, upon an application from Sir Edward Hastings, his stipend was raised to £20 and again to £30 at the request of the Earl of Huntingdon, and it was confirmed to him by writing under the Town seal. Notwithstanding this formal grant we find the Earl of Huntingdon complaining by letter dated 3rd August, 1591, that Mr. Sacheverill's salary was not regularly paid, and again on the 16th of October in the same year he wrote to the Mayor and his brethren complaining of the unkindness of many of the town to their Preacher, and desires the Mayor, &c., to take care to pay him the stipend promised. (Nichols' *Leicestershire*, vol. i. p. 405-6.)

Mr. Sacheverill married Mary, the daughter of Alderman Robert Heyrick, as referred to in the above letter, and there is extant a letter written upon her marriage by Mary Sacheverill to her uncle Sir William. Mr. Sacheverill afterwards took an active part in public matters—especially, as will be seen, with regard to Trinity Hospital—and there is no doubt that his connection with Alderman Robert Heyricke would help to make him more acceptable to the townsmen than their previous treatment of him would indicate. He died in 1626, being buried at S. Martin's on the 1st of December in that year. His death is thus referred to by the Chamberlains of the borough in their accounts for the year 1626-7 :—

> Item for my owne chardgs lying forth one night when I went to Certifie the Earle of Huntingdon of Mr. Sacheverell's Death . . . . . ij*s.* ij*d.*

He was succeeded as Town Preacher by the Rev. John Angel.

Note B, p. 118.

In illustration of the hosiery trade, which has been in modern times the staple of Leicester, the following passage from an earlier letter is interesting. It was addressed by Richard Hudson (ironmonger) of Leicester to "William Erycke," then in London, on the 6th of March, 1582, and it shows that a Leicester man then sent all the way to Doncaster to purchase a pair of knit stockings, and to London to have them dyed :—

> The cause of my wryting unto yow at this time is to let yow understand that I have sent yow the pare of knit stockens which yow sent

for by Rychard Pene, and I have reseved a crowne of him for them the[y] did cost v^{s} shillinges at Dankester, and yf yow do not lyck them of the price I pre yow to get them colered of the same coler as the stockens is which yow had on your leges when I was with yow, I taket the[y] was a morey, and I will peay yow for them and will send yow your v^{s} agene. Moreover, frend William Erycke, I have a pare of wosted stockens, the leges of them I preay yow to get me a porse, a large on[e], made of them, with a lock rynge, and I will paye yow for yt. I wolde have the fringe that shall go about it to be of silcke.

Again, John Heyricke of Leicester, writing to his brother William on March 16th, 1582, ten days after the date of the last quoted letter, says :—

> Your mother hath sent yow a payre of hose to wear in the shop to keep yow warme, and I have sent yow another payre of Jarsi hose which I word (wore) myselfe for they were too littell for me, and I think they will serve yow therefore I have sent them yow for a token, if so be they will not sarve yow my mother wills yow to give them to my sister Hawes's son if she have any at home that they will serve.

There is a reference to Richard Hudson (the writer of the letter just quoted) in a letter of John Heyricke to his brother William, dated 12th August, 1584, which shows a scrape he got into with regard to horse hiring :—

> Richard Hudson hath beene in prison this monneth for a horse which he rid unto Yorke. When he came whome the mare died, and so hee put of and would not agree with him of whom he had the mare, and now he hath cast him ith [in the] gaille, but I hope his father-in-law will have him forth again. He hath a child which is a gerle: his wife and child is at her mother's.

Note C, p. 122.

This was his nephew William, the son of Sir William. Mr. John Gough Nichols found amongst the papers at Beaumanor several notes of expenses relating to young William Heyricke, at Oxford, which may be quoted as a contrast to similar expenses in the present day :—

The bill of this quarter's expenses from our Lady Day till Midsommer 1614.

Imprimis the binding of Augusta historia in 8 volumes	viij*s.*	
Itm for Aristoteles Organon		xxij*d.*
Itm Sphinx philosophica	iij*s.*	
A parcell of wood	viij*s.*	4*d.*
Diet in Lent from our Lady day till hee went	ix*s.*	xj*d.*
Bootes	vij*s.*	vj*d.*
j payre of gloves	j*s.*	
Paper ink &c.	j*s.*	
Candles	j*s.*	
Letters and to a Porter		vij*d.*
Spanish leather shoes	ij*s.*	viij*d.*
In mony sundry times	x*s.*	
Suppers this quarter since his returne	v*s.*	vj*d.*
Chamber rent	v*s.*	v*d.*

Laundres	. iij*s.*	
Poor scholer	. iij*s.*	
Battles, Commons, Decrements . . .	iij*li.* ij*s.*	xj*d.*
	vij*li.*	xj*d.*
Adde Tuition . .	. xx*s.*	
Summa total . .	viij*li.*	xj*d.*

Recd. the 8th Julye 1614 the some of Eyght pownds vj*d.*
By me,
Francs Wrenn.

A similar bill of expenses from Midsummer to Michaelmas 1614, amounts to £6. 3s. 5d.

Another from "the Nativity to our Lady-day" 1614-15 shews that Robert Heyricke, another of Sir William's sons, had then joined his brother at Oxford:—

Expenses common to both

Chamber rent	v*s.* v*d.*		
Laundres	vj*s.*		
Poor scholler	vj*s.*		43*s.* 3*d.*
Itm 2 loads { the firste . . .	xij*s.* vj*d.*		
woode { the later . . .	xiij*s.* iiij*d.*		

For Wm Herricke.

The watch mendinge . . .	iij*d.*	
2 payre of shoes	iiij*s.* iij*d.*	
In mony	ij*s.* vj*d.*	
Mendinge a gowne j payre stockinges and other apparel	xvij*d.*	
3*li* Candles and paper . . .	xviij*d.*	4*li.* 17*s.*
Suppers on fastinge nights and parte of lent	viij*s.* x*d.*	
Battles, Commons, Decrm̃ . . .	iij*li.* xv*s.* v*d.*	

For Rob. Herricke.

Fees to ye officers . . .	v*s.*	
2 paper bookes	j*s.*	
Charges in entertainment at his first fier .	iij*s.*	
Suppers since Christmas and in lent .	xij*s.*	
Battles, Commons, Decrem̃ . . .	iij*li.* vj*s.* viij*d.*	
Summa totalis . .	xj*li.* vij*s.*	xj*d.*
Remains also for a caution .	v*li.*	
Itm ye Bursars fees . .	vj*s.* viiij*d.*	
Tuition more . . .	j*li.*	
Sum[a] totalis .	17 . 14 . 7	

Recevyd the 5th daye of Maye 1615 the some of 17*li.* xiiij*s.* vj*d.* for the use of my sonne Christopher Wrenn, the full of this byll . . . By me Francs Wrenn.	17*li.* 14 . 6

On the 8th of April, 1619, Sir W. Heyrick paid £5. 4*s.* for the Commons of his son Robert at Lincoln's Inn, and in November following for Richard a third son at St. John's, Oxon :—

the 10th of November 1619

Re^{d} the day and year above written of Sr Wm Herricke the summe of ten pounds nine shillings to be repayd unto his sonne Mr. Richard Herricke of St. John's in Oxon
I say Re^{d}

p me
Anthony Wrenn.

Vincent Norrington (a nephew (?) of Alderman Robert Heyricke) appears to have been sent to one of the Universities judging from the following document which Mr. J. G. Nichols found amongst Sir William's papers :—

A note of what moneys I have disbursed about the furnishing of Vincent Norrington, &c.

Pd for his gown	1^{li} . 0^{s} . 6^{d}
pd for his surplis having 4½ yards of holland at 2^{s}. 8^{d}.	
p yard	0 . 12 . 0
pd for ye making of ye surplis	0 . 3 . 4
pd for his admittance	0 . 5 . 0
pd for portage of wood and coles . . .	0 . 2 . 6
pd for ye watching of ye coales	0 . 0 . 8
pd for empting ye coale houses and for carrying out of ye rubbish	0 . 2 . 0
Sm̃a totall' . . .	2^{li} . 6^{s} . 0^{d}

Note D, p. 122.

The Common Councillors—or "the forty-eight"—were attired in black gowns; the Mayor and such of the Aldermen—or "the four-and-twenty"—as had been Mayors wore scarlet gowns on special occasions. Such occasions were called "Scarlet days," and orders were made at various periods as to which those days should be. Thus at a Common Hall held on the 14th of March, 20th Elizabeth, it was agreed that "the Mayor and such as have been so shall wear scarlet on Christmas Day, New Year's Day, Twelfth Day, Easter Day, *Whitsunday, and on the days next after* Christmas, Easter, and *Whitsunday*, also at the Fairs," &c. What "solemn feast days" are specially referred to here I cannot at present say; possibly some relic or survival of the religious processions, plays, &c., which were wont in pre-Reformation times to be celebrated in Leicester at that season.

Note E, p. 124.

The Rev. Tobias Heyricke himself wrote to his uncle earnestly desiring his influence in obtaining preferment. Two of his letters are preserved at Beaumanor, and though they have been printed in Nichols' History of the County (vol. ii. p. 626 No. 9, and p. 627 No. 14) one is here given in full as a specimen of the style.

Salutem in Chro.

Sr

I was bolde to sollicite you by my late l're to take a little paines for me wth my L. B. of Lincolne; and I thanke you I perceive by yor more late most loving l're that you were easily moved this waie, and have taken a great deale of paines, though as yet to little purpose (for ought I see) to move that other. Yet herein you doe well comfort me that you purposed not so to desist, but to try againe, if that wch at the first insett could not be effected, by a second reply maie be accomplished. It rejoyceth me that we are gone to [so] farre there is hope that we shall proceed wth good successe in the end. I see good tokens of you, and of y^{t} others (I maie saie of manie others) good will towardes me: manie seeme to like me, not a few to love me; and from hence also proceed sometimes good reports of good wishes to me, and good endeavours for me. God maie please after this hopefull springe of good will and good wishes send us fruitfull in harvest of good successe and good deedes: who if he ever raise me I praie God I maie allwaies possesse mine highest honour in lowly humilitie: if never, I praie God I maie ever enjoy my more lowe estate wth meakness, patience and contentedness. And for you, if after all yor endeavours for me, and expectation from you, you neither now or ever procure me any preferment, but all yor labour be lost, all mine hopes frustrate, and yet you in the eie of the world so powerful, so convenient and so hopefull a meanes, and my self so fit so approved and well accepted of an object: but it suffice you that I give you humble thankes for yor great good will, and I praie God it may satisfy me that God seeth another estate better for me. Only give me leave to wonder y^{t} you should be so fortunate in yor owne businesses and so unfortunate in mine. But I hope, and praie that God will turne to the best. To whose grace I commend you and all yo^{rs}, me and mine to yor praiers, kind thankes for all your loving kindnesse, and due salutacions to my beloved Ladie and duty remembred, my wife's not forgotten.

Yo^{r} loving Nephew
Tobias Heyricke.

Houghton Martij 27°
1613°
To the right worshipfull
his very good unkle Sir
William Herricke gives
theas.

The second letter, a rather urgent one written by Tobias Heyrick to his uncle Sir William, was dated Houghton, 28th October, 1613. It stated amongst other things that "Mr. Johnson our Archdeacon of Leicester" was

* Tobias Heyricke's Letters, 152-155.

about to resign his office and had made the writer "a kinde offer as I conceive of the resignation of his place." There must have been some misunderstanding, for the suggested resignation did not take place: Mr. Johnson held the Archdeaconry for many years after the date of this letter. "It is thought that the Archbishop's brother will be Bishop and so his parsonage of Bingham in the Vale will fall into the Kinge's gift: that or a worse plum might be welcome if it would fall in my ditch. But God's will be done according to his will."

The Rev. Tobias Heyricke occasionally preached in Leicester and received the customary complimentary gift of wine from the Corporation. I find the following entries in the Chamberlains' Accounts :—

1605-6.
Itm the xxviij of November pd for one quarte of clarett & one quarte of Sacke given to Mr. Tobye Heyricke who that day preached . . . . . xx*d*.

[A similar gift later in the same financial year.]

Again another gift of wine is noted as made to "Mr. Tobye Heyricke" who preached at St. Martin's Church on the 3rd March, 1611.

Mr. Heyricke did not obtain his coveted preferments. He remained at Houghton for several years, dying rector there in 1627.

In 1623 he and Mr. Sacheverill gave a joint donation of 10s. to the town towards the "repaire of the Bridge that leadeth to the Dannet's Hall."

Note F, p. 126.

The "Town causes" here specially referred to were the Incorporation of the Hospital in the Newarke, and the purchase of the Grange, in both of which (as in everything for the welfare of the town) Sir William Heyrick rendered most valuable aid. The following letter, addressed by the Mayor and his brethren (printed, but not fully, by Nichols, vol. i. p. 340) to Sir William, introduces the matter of the Hospital :—

Righte Worshipp[ll]

After o[r] hartie Commendacions. With thankes for yo[r] love and great care of us and our Corporacion, understandinge by yo[r] L're to y[r] brother Mr. Robert Heyricke that one Gibb an Almesman in o[r] Hospitall in the Newarke of Leicester hath exhibited a peticion to the Kinge's Ma[tie] and of his highness referance thereof to our honorable good frende Mr. Chancello[r] of the Duchie and of his good likinge thereof, for the incorporatinge of the sayd Hospitall: Wee have therefore thought fitt to send upp this bearer our lovinge frende Thomas Nurce to repaire to the sayde Gibb, and to knowe of him howe farr he hath proceeded therein, and fully to acquainte you therewith: that as his proceedinge therein hetherto maye be to your likinge: and likelie to be broughte to passe: Wee are therefore the boulder to entreate yo[r] Worshipps good direction, and to advise with o[r] Recorder howe to incorporate the sayd Hospitall and such landes or tenements as are now thereunto belonginge or may hereafter (by any well disposed person) be given to the sayde Hospitall, and that the maior of our sayde Borough (for the tyme beinge) and certen of his bretheren (in the name of o[r] Corporacon) maie for ever be maisters thereof

(if soe it maie be obtayned). Thus farr presuminge of yor wo^{ps} favo^{r} and paynes in this suite, Wee comende you to the protection of the Allmightie and allwaies rest

Your verie loveinge frends

Leicester the xvijth daie of November 1613.

Thomas Manbie Maior
Robart Heyricke
Wm Morton
James Ellys
James Andrewe
Tho. Parker
John Freake

To the Right Worshipfull
Sr William Heyricke
Knighte at London bee
theise.

[Sealed with the borough signet.]

Another letter (also printed by Nichols, vol. i. 340) was sent to Sir William Heyrick two months subsequently, when the first instalment of the purchase money for the Grange was paid, and when the Hospital business was still in negociation :—

Righte Wo^{rll}

After our hartiest comondations : understandinge by Mr. Wadland of yor greate paynes and care of us to Sr Wm Smyth in the purchasinge of o^{r} Graunge, for the wch wee and o^{r} wholl Corporacion acknowledge o^{r}selves much bounde unto yo^{w} and rest yor debtor for yor approved love towardes us : soe shall o^{r} succeedinge age have just cause to acknowledge the same (although the purchase bee verie deare) ernestlye intreatinge your advice and paynes once agayne for the incorporatinge the hospitall, and for the followinge of which business wee have sent up Mr. Wadlande, whoe wilbee readie to attende you therein, and by him have sent unto Sr Wm Smyth the firste five hundreth markes, and securytie for the rest, and xj^{li} in golde for the Ladye Smythe, but in respecte of o^{r} povertie att this tyme, yf you can content her with x^{li} wee shall take it as a greate kindness desireing yor p^{r}sence when the Assurance is to passe unto us. And thus beinge (as wee have alwayes beene) bouden to trouble you, we comende yo^{w} to the protection of the Allmightie and allwayes rest

Yo^{r} assured lovinge frendes

Leicester this 23 of Januarye 1613-14.

Thomas Manbye maior
Robart Heyricke.

To the right Wo^{rll} oure verie lovinge frende
Sr Will'm Heyricke
Knight London Bee
Theise.

[Sealed with the cinquefoil signet of the Corporation.]

Note G, p. 126.

The Hospital business not progressing to the satisfaction of the Mayor and his brethren, they asked Mr. Sacheverill the Town Preacher (son-in-law to Alderman Robert Heyricke) to go up to London, and to watch proceedings on

behalf of the Town. He went, carrying with him, the following letter (already printed by Nichols, vol. i. p. 342) addressed to Sir William Heyricke.

Right Wor[ll].

After our great thanckes for your great paines and all your kindeness theise are to certifie yo[u] that we have over intreated this bearer Mr. Sacheverill to come up in our behalfe about our suite concerninge the old hospitall to doe what he cann therein for a while, untill Mr. Wadland shall come up. Wee weare the more importunate wth him to undertake this jorney for that (from his knowledge of the wholl business, and his owne experience in hospitall matters) we thought him as likelie at this tyme to doe good therein, as any other that wee could have gotten. And therefore wee pray yo[u] that [you] will take the paines to goe wth him to Mr. Moseley so soon as you maie, and to make him knowne unto him to be the man whom wee have desired to repayre unto his Worshipp about our suite. And, as touchinge the message w[ch] he sent to us by our Towne Clarke, that Mr. James Andrew is the man whom wee desire and thinke the fittest to be named in the booke for the first man if one perticular person must needes be named therein, and if the generall name of the Mayor and Aldermen of the Borough of Leicester for the tyme beinge maie not serve in this case. And so intreatinge earnestly the contynuance of yo[r] love, notw[th]standinge the tediousness of the suite, wee comend yo[w] by our prayers unto the rich rewardinge of him that pitied Ninivi.

Your Wo[rs].

Leicester this 23 of June 1614

much bounden and to comanded
Thomas Manbie Maio[r]
W[m] Morton
James Andrewe
Tho: Parker

To the right Wo[rll]. our verie lovinge frende S[r] Will[m] Heyricke knight bee theise.

After remaining in London nearly a month Mr. Sacheverill prepared to return home, and addressed the following to Sir William Heyricke:—

Immanuel.

S[r]

These are further to certifie you that I have acquainted my L. of Huntington wth what is done, who tooke it well, and hath spoken effectually in my hearing to his brother George to be our mediator to Mr. Atturney generall both in his owne name and my lordes, when Edward, Mr. Wadland's man, or yourself shall see cause to use him, and direct him what he is to request. Moreover because it is likely there wilbe meanes used to move the King to the contrary, or at least that S[r] Rojer W. will deale wth Mr. Dackombe, it weare good in myne opinion yf Mr. Dackombe might be againe remembered and requested either by word or letter to continue his favour to the cause, if there be neede as there is likelyhood there wilbe and that he may be able to answeare S[r]. Roger and not [appear] over ignorant in the case. And so I take my leave both of you and of London, leaving the chief care of the business unto you, uppon so good experience of your care thereof that I have alreadie. London the 19th of July.

To the right W[r]shipfull S[r] Will'm Herricke Knight theise bedelivered.

Your much indebted kinsman
Thomas Sacheverill.

A few days after Mr. Sacheverill's return to Leicester, the Mayor and his brethren dispatched a messenger to London to pay the second instalment of the Grange purchase money, and forwarded by him the following letter of thanks to Sir William: (This letter is printed by Throsby, but with many inaccuracies).

Righte Wo^{rll}

Understandinge by o^{r} good frendes Mr. Sacheverell and Mr. Wadlande of yor greate paynes travell and good endeavo^{rs} to many parsons and sev'all places in the behalfe of o^{r} poore Towne concerninge o^{r} Hospitall, for the wch wee acknowledge o^{r}selves muche beholdinge unto you, not onlie in this but for dyvers other yor lovinge favo^{r}s done unto us and o^{r} wholl Corporacon, hartelye desiringe that the contynu^{a}ce of your kinde favo^{r} towardes us and o^{r} poore Towne for upon yo^{r}selfe wee and o^{r} wholl Corporacon are boulde whollie to relye, wth owt wch wee know not what might befaull us. Wee have sent up this bearer Mr. Chamb'lin Eyricke to paie Sr Wm Smyth the five hundred markes due upon Saturdaie nexte beinge the seconde paiement for o^{r} Graunge wch we purchased by yor good meanes of him. Thus beinge as wee have allwaies beene troblesome wee comende you to the protection of the allmightie and ever rest

Yo^{r} Wo^{rpes} assured lovinge frendes

Leicester this seconde of August 1614,

Thomas Manbie maior
Robart Heyricke
Wm Morton
John Freake

To the right Wo^{rll} oure especiall good frende Sr Will'm Heyricke Knight London bee theise

On the 9th of the same month (August 1614) Mr. Sacheverill wrote the following long explanatory letter to Sir William Heyricke: it is curious as showing the origin of the Town Preacher, and is therefore given here notwithstanding its having been already printed by Nichols, vol. i. p. 344.

S^{r}

After a million of hartye thanckes from us all, these are to signifie unto you two thinges, by occasion of your last letter directed unto me. The former, that (the matter having bene in that danger wch you write of) we feare least the same occasion that made him [? the attorney of the Duchy, Mr. Dackombe] so willing to have given it over, may make him still (and now in your so long absence from him) lesse willing to effect the business, or else to neglect it and to doe nothing in it. And therefore we thincke that it would be a happye thing for us yf youre affayres might permitt you to be here in the su[mmer as] we have sollicited him in that matter, when the King shalbe here. And that our neede of youre presence here at that tyme may be also the more, by reason of Mr. Sherman's ghests lyeinge (as I write) at his house. The other matter is that I perceave that a wrong Information is given unto Mr. D. touching the summe of the whole pencion payed to the Hospitall in former tymes, wch is not 255^{li} as you write, but only 238^{li} 8^{s} 8^{d}. I doe say uppon myne owne certein knowledge. There be indeede 2 other pencions, the one myne, of x^{li} and the other Mr. Rudiard's of 6^{li} a yere, both making up 16^{li} w^{ch} [added] to the 238^{li} 8^{s} 8 dooth make a summe nere to 255^{li}. And hence (I think) it came that Gib did informe you of that summe, because both he and Mr. Sh[erman] have sought by this meanes to get our said pencions away from us (so well as the mastership of the

Hospitall from the maior) even by getting the King's grant of them to the Hospitall in perpetuity, wch you know will make voyd our patentes that be only *durante beneplacito*. But as I know you would not be any meanes to further them in hurtinge of us, so I assure you that it hath caused a wrong Information to be given to Mr. D. ffor so neither of the sayd pencions be any of the Hospitall paymentes, but both of them are altogeather and mearely arisinge out of the dissolved church of Newarke wthout respect of the Hospitall. At the dissolution of wch church and colledge, when the persons that before had their livings in it weare all put to their pencions for their lives, in lieu and consideration of their livings, there being therein 2 companyes, the Canons were allowed x^{li} a peice, and the other company (wch weare called Vickars) weare allowed 6^{li} a peice. Now my pencion was originally one Wullocks pencion, who was one of the Canons of Newarke, and Mr. Rudiard's vj^{li} was one of the Vickars pensions, namely old Parson Heathcotes of Elston, Until wthin 16 yeres agoe when Mr. Rudiard succeeded him, and gott it to be newly put into his patent (as the consideration wherefore the King should pay it to him) that he should administer the communion in the Hospitall for it. But for my pencion of the x^{li} (after the first Canon that had it for his life uppon the consideration of his living wch he lost by the dissolution of the church in the 2 of Edw. 6) the next that had it, had it given him to preach in the towne of Leicester (wthout any mention of the Hospitall), and that because the towne was a parcell of the Dutchye wheare the sayd pencion is payd and because they lost (by the dissolution of the sayd church of Newarke) that preaching wch the towne did enjoy by it when it stoode. And wth that expresse consideration alone (to preache in the towne of Leicester as parcell of the Duchie) the preachers of Leicester from tyme to tyme have had it expressed in their patentes. So that as yt is most certeine that neither it nor Mr. Rudiard's vj^{li} be any part of the Hospitall whole pencion or payments, but of another nature meerely and properly arising out of the church, as it is a distinct thing from the Hospitall and the Hospitall from it, so it maketh it to be an untruth (that cannot be truly affirmed or said) that so much as 255^{li} hath beene payed since Edward the Secondes tyme, or from the first founding of the sayd Hospitall, because these 2 pencions of 10^{li} and 6^{li} have been payed but since Edward the 6 his tyme. And not as Hospitall paymentes at all, but for other respectes and considerations. And therefore (yf I finde oportunity) I will cause Mr. Dackombe to be better infourmed in this poynte of the true summe of all the Hospitall paymentes when he passeth by us.

But Gibs meaning in that must be good because he doth well know the difference, and did in playne termes promise me not to meddle at all with our 2 pencions. And did him self tell me that he knew the whole Hospitall pay to be but 238^{li} 8^{s} 8^{d}. I pray God therefore that he doe cary a truer meaning to the towne than he doeth unto us. For I doe heare by one in secret, that Mr. Loveden hath written to Mr. Sherman this last weeke that there is some hope to get Mr. D. (our frend) of [off] of the business, by reason we performe not wth him. And therefore I thincke Mr. L. did heare by Gib of that alteration in Mr. D. wch you founde, and did report of in your last letter. What is to be conjectured thereby I leave unto yourself. And so wishing that (touching your coming) wch I dare not request, I take my leave, wth my duetyfull remembrance of my ladie, and most hartye prayers for your self and all that is yours. Leic. the 9th of August. Your W. much bounden and to be comanded

Thomas Sacheverill.

The following letter relates to a proposed new Seal and Badge for Trinity Hospital and was probably written soon after its incorporation :

S^r^

After many hartie thanckes, first unto God for directing and prospering your endeavours so happily as he hath, and next unto your self for your so great paynes and care taken in the behalfe of the Hospitall, these are at this tyme only to certify you (in case you have not alreadye resolved) about the forme of the badge that my father [Alderman Robert Heyricke] and I doe both think that a little crowne would doe well for that purpose, as fit to signifye that the King is their second founder. But for the seal and the badge both we shalbe better able to give advice (yf there be neede) after that we have seene your devise wch you have in hand, and doe write that you will send it hither by the next fit messenger. For then it wilbe tyme ynough, because neither of them doe neede so much hast but that you may well allow yourself tyme ynough, before you resolve of them so far as to bestow the cost to make any of them, more than the very patternes. And so I cease to trouble you any further at this tyme with my humble duty to my ladye and my hartye prayer for your self and all yours

Leicester the 17th of January

Youre w^ps^ much beholden
and readie to be commanded
Thomas Sacheverill.

The present seal, of which an impression in wax is now before me, bearing the Inscription

SIGIL HOSPITALIS SCTÆ TRINITATIS IN NOVO OPERE LEIC

is engraved in Nichols' *Leicestershire*, vol. i. Part 2. Plate xxix, fig. 16, and is shown to be the one referred to in the above letter by this inscription on the back :—

Ex dono Gulielmi Heyricke equitis 1615.

The present badge worn by the male inmates on their cloaks is a heater-shaped shield of brass about 2⅝ inches long, bearing the arms of the Founder, Henry, Earl of Lancaster, surmounted by an Earl's coronet; whether this is the ancient badge, or a new one chosen by Sir William Heyricke I cannot say.

The following extracts from the Accounts of the Chamberlains of the Borough are quoted from the original records as being explanatory of the above letters, and as showing that both the "Town Causes" were carried to a successful issue :—

As to the Hospital:

1613-14.

Charge this yeere laide out about the Incorporatinge of Hospitall in the Newarke of Leicester of which the towne are Masters of as followeth, viz :—

Imprimis paide to John Gibb one of the Almsmen and a Scotsman for and towards his charge to London twoe sevāll tymes to peticon the King to incorporate the saide howse and make it capable to receyve lands	xl*s*.

Itm paide for the charge of Roger Hawfeilde beinge sent to London about the saide Hospitall (when the saide Gibbs and Sharman had plaide faulchoode in fellowshippe with the Towne to Mr. Chancellor of the duchie and others) as appeyres by a bill of the pticulers } iiij*li.* xv*s.* vij*d.*

Itm paide for the charge of Mr. Sacheverell beinge intreated to London about the saide Hospitall business whoe tooke greate paynes there wth Sr Willm Heyricke Knight the Towne's good frende in this busines when Sharman had made himselfe strong against the Towne } Lij*s.*

Itm paide to the saide Sr Willm Heyricke wch he had laide downe for Towne about the incorporatinge of the saide Hospitall . . . . . } xxiij*li.*

Itm then paide for the hier of a horsse for Mr. Sacheverell to London beinge fourthe about a moneth xiiij*s.* and for shewinge the horsse mendinge the sadle and Girthes for the same ij*s.* 1*d.* the wholl . } xvj*s.* j*d.*

[Mr. Sacheverill and Chamberlain Eyricke went to Holt "to have speech with Mr. Dackham of His Majesty's masters of request" for and concerning the said Hospital. There are a few more charges including £2 3s. 10d. the charges and horse hire of Thomas Nurse to London.]

1614-15.

More chargs this yeere laide out for the Incorporatinge of the Hospitall in the Newàrke of Leicester wch are nowe brought to Leicester and is nowe under the Greate Seale of England and under the Seale of his highnes Duchie of Lancaster by the means of the Right Wo^r^shipp^ll^ Sr Willm Heyricke Knighte the Townes speciall good frende and true soliciter in this busines viz. :—

Imprimis paide to John Gibb one of the Almesmen of the said Hospitall whoe followed the Kinge wth peticōn to Incorporate the saide howsse . } ij*s.*

Itm given to Sr Willm Heyricke his man for his greate paynes and travell to sevāll places, the King's Co^r^te and ellswhere about this busines . } xxij*s.*

Itm geven to the saide John Gibb in lue of his paynes and charge wch he had beene att in this twoe yeeres suite to incorporate the saide howse . . } v*li.*

Itm paide to Mr. George Wadlande to the use of the saide Sr William Heyricke Knighte in full payment of and for all the charge which the saide Sr Willm had laide out aboute the drawinge and engrossinge of the Lres Patents of the saide Hospitall and for the ffees of the said Greate Seale and Dutchie Seale as appeyres by Sr Wm Heyrick's note under his owne hande remaynginge upon the file for this yeere . . xviij*li.* xix*s.* viij*d.*

[Other expences 30*s.*, making a total of £26. 13*s.* 8*d.*]

As to the Newarke Grange.

Newarke Grange.

Att Christmas in Anno Dni 1613 the Towne purchased the Newarke Graunge in Leicester wth all lands and Tenements, Mylnes and Meadowes thereunto belonging wth there appurtennes of the Worshipp^ll^ Sr Willm Smyth Knight for the some of One thowsand pounds of lawfull monye

of Englande to bee paide as followeth vicz. five hundred marks thereof upon the sixt daie of februarie then next followinge, other five hundred marks thereof upon the sixt daie of August then next followinge, and other fyve hundred marks next and residue of the saide some of one thousand pounds upon the sixt daie of ffebruarie in Anno Dni 1614, and of the saide thousande pounds thus much paide as followeth vicz:

Imprimis paid to the saide S[r] Willm. Smyth Knight upon the said sixt daie of ffebruarie 1613	cccxxxiij*li.* vj*s.* viij*d.*
Itm paide more to the saide S[r] Willm. Smyth upon the saide sixt daye of August in Anno Dni 1614	cccxxxiij*li.* vj*s.* viij*d.*
Itm paide more to the saide S[r] Willm. Smyth in parte of the saide five hundred marks due the saide sixt of ffebruarie 1614 .	cxiij*li.* vj*s.* viij*d.*
— *c xx li*	
Soma vii. iiij	
Itm paide for the charge of Mr. George Wadlande and Thomas Nurce whoe was sent to London to the saide S[r] W[m] Smythe to purchase the saide Graunge for the Towne and some other busines of the Townes as appeyres by his bill of p'ticulers . . .	viij*li.* iij*s.* vj*d.*
Itm in Hillarie terme Anno undecimo Jacobi Reg. given to the Ladye Smythe upon passinge of the Assureaunce of the saide Graunge and Acknowledginge of a fine att the Comon place Barr before the Judgs there att Westm for her goodwill . . .	xvj*li.*
Itm then paide to Mr. Recorder for his advise upon the paper Booke from S[r] Willm Smythe for the said Graunge with thappurtennes and for ffees and other busines att the passinge of the assureaunce to the Towne and other monye laide out as appeyres by a bill under the saide Mr. Wadland's hande .	v*li.* xv*s.* vj*d.*
Itm paid more to the saide Mr. George Wadlande for drawinge and ingrossinge of the said Books betweene the saide S[r] William Smythe and the Towne for the saide Graunge wth thapp'tennce and for his paynes therein to see the wholl busines effected . .	vij*li.* x*s.*
Sma xxxvij*li.* ix*s.*	
c	
Sma Total viij xvij*li.* ix*s.*	

1614-15.

The Newarke Grange.

Itm in full payment of the said one thousande pounde paide to the saide S[r] Willm Smythe Knight upon the vj daye of ffebruarie Anno Dni 1614 the some of . .	ccxx*li.*

Note H. p. 127.

The following letter written from Leicester by this Mr. Bonnet to his friend William Heyricke (afterwards Sir William) when they were both quite young men is preserved at Beaumanor, and is worth transcribing here:—

Laus Deo. Leycester the 5 of December 1579.

My very hartye commendations, good frend W^m^, with a desyre to heare of y^r^ healthe whiche I pray God may long continew to his pleasure. The causse that I have nott wryten unto you of so longe tyme hath beyne partlye for my owne delayinge of tyme and partlye my M^r^. busyness hath stayed me, bothe which have stayed me so longe that now of latte I thanke God for his visytation, I have nott beyne able to wrytt: for my detracte of tyme I am to be blamed, but nott for forgetfullness, nor I hope you wille not so thinke: but yett I prove that it is good takynge tyme while tyme servethe. I by a falle of on a horsse bracke my ryght arme w^th^in this vj wickes, whiche hathe byne some payne and greiffe to me; but thoughe God throw downe to helle, yett he bringethe backe agayne, and suerly he that sent me the sore altogether deserved hathe in mercye made me hole agayne; I thanke him therfore, and I hope punished me in this world that I should nott be condemned withe the world. William, I wold be glad to heare of your health and welle doyinge, and thoughe my letter have nott so fayre a face, yett yt shall have as trew an hart and as faythfulle meanynge as yf yt had byn more delectable to the eye; for suerly, yf ability and tyme once serve together, I would be glad to shew my self thankfulle for many pleasures allredy receved; and thus in the Lord I byd you farewell, who is the end of alle striffe and greiffe.

I pray you have me commended to Jane Gyllott w^t^ Thomas and Mary Wayt, and alle other owr frends. I dyd suspect by a word that y^r^ brother Thomas sayde he wold telle me heareafter, y^t^ alle thinges is not welle w^t^ Mary Wayt, whiche I am very sory for, that she had no more grace yf yt be so, but I can nott telle yett. I am bold to wryt so muche to you yf nothinge should be,—telle Jane I can nott butt macke my commendacions to her: and I pray you send me word where she dwellethe, and how you thinke of the mache betwix Mr. Allexander and her, whether yt wille go forwarde.

Your frend yf ever able to pleasure you
John Bonnyt.

(*Postscript outside.*) I have sent you a booke for a token called the Patheway [Perhaps *The Pathewaye to Paradyse.*]

To his lovinge frend
Wm Heyricke in Chepsyde
at the Grassehoper geve
this w^t^ spede

Note I, p. 129.

The following letter from Mr. Babington is extant amongst the Beaumanor papers: it relates to herons:—

Good Sr Will'm, As I have bene behouldinge to you for many kindnesses, So ame I bould now to intreate this one wch is, that you would be pleased to bestow a pare or two of yonge Hearnes of me, and if it shall happen that eith^r^ my woodes or waters may pleasure you they shalbe at y^r^ comaunde. And so comendinge my love to y^r^ selfe and my good Lady, restinge reddye to requite yor courtesy, if any occasion be offered wherein I have power, I end

ffrom Rotheley Temple, June 19th 1615
Yo^r^ assured lovinge ffreind
Tho: Babington

Note K, p. 129.

Of the prevalence of these alarms, a letter of Mr. Thomas Harrison, of Brentford, to Sir William Heyricke, dated Nov. 21, 1615, eight days earlier than the above, gives further proof:—"I might," he writes, "fill a volume with reports, viz.: that Sommersett's pension from Spaygne is fyfteen thousand poundes yearley, and that a Spanysh crayer laden with wilde fyer, confections of poyson, mungrell traytors, suffered a wracke comminge for England of purpose to have done some execution heare, both upon our Kinge and his nobilitye, the citye of London, and his Majestyes navye, other some say that our late deceased Lord Privie-seale is nowe revived and livinge in Rome; and many men thinke that the lady Somersett is not with childe."

Note L, p. 130.

There are many early letters of John Heyricke to his brother William existing, but they cease when his apprenticeship was just over, and he had set up in business for himself in Leicester. The following is one addressed to Lady Heyricke acknowledging his share of the usual Christmas presents sent down by Sir William this year (1615).

"Worthie Maddam, my humble dewtey and my wives remembered to yourselfe and my good brother, with desire of your health, prosperitie and happiness in this life, but espetialy eternall joy in the life to come, I crave pardon for my two much ingratifolness and necklygence so lounge not by leter to write two wordes to yow since I came from yow, knowinge how much I am indebted to yow for many of your kindnesses to mee; but now, beeing put in mind of my fault by your kinde and libarall geifte sent this jorney, as many heretofore, I coulde no lounger for shame forbear but take pen in hand to acknowledge my fault past and to crave pardon as pore debters doe, not knowinge how to requite your kindness again but with thankefullness to yow both for this and many other of your loves to us. I hope it will not be lounge but I shall see yow myselfe, though more to truble yow; in the meane time I will not forget to pray for yow to Him that is able to geve more aboundently than wee are able to aske or to thincke. My lovinge remembrance to all my good Cozens, and prayrs to the Allmightie for a blessinge to them all. I leave further to truble yow committinge yow and yours and us all to the gratious protection of the Allmightie in Jesus Christ. I thanke my Brother [Sir William] for his paines in wrightinge to my brother [Robert] for

wee are made partakers of the newes, which otherwise wee could not heare of it so well, which cawseth thankes to God for his great mercies in revelinge the wickedness of oure enimes, and delivringe us from their crueltie intended, and from his judgmentes which wee dooe desarve, for it is of his mercies we are not consumed.

your ever lovinge brother to
December the 19 day comemaund in that I may or can,
1615. John Heyricke."

This bee delivred to the
worshipefull and his very
good sister Ladye Heyricke
at her howse in woodstreet
geve this." [Seal of initials I. H.]

Though a bad correspondent John Heyricke was evidently by no means loth to acquire and impart information regarding current events. He was on a visit to his brother Sir William in London early in the year 1617, and his return to Leicester was looked forward to with satisfaction by Alderman Robert Heyricke, for said he "I hope I shall hear some good news from you by brother John, *for commonly he will see the last man born* before he come out of London."

The Rev. Thomas Sacheverill and his wife (see note A, p. 140) also acknowledge similar gifts:—

Welbeloved Uncle: these are to certifie you that wee have receved the bag of spice you sent us of late, and doe verie hartily thanck you for the same, as also for all your other former courtisyes, the full requitall whereof we defer untill God give us abilitye and oportunity, wth yf he never doe, wee beseech him (who is all-able, and never wanteth oportunity to doe you good) that he will pay our debt unto you. In the meane while, as a token of our thanckful mynde, we have now sent you a couple of turkyes, not so good as we wish, but the best we could get, and in my wives judgment the best novelty that our Leicester market will afford. Wherfore we pray you to take them in good part, and to commend us hartily to all our auntes and cousins wth you (as you meete them) and to convey the letter enclosed unto my sister Stringer. And so I leave you in great hast, beseeching the Almighty to guide preserve and prosper both your self, and the whole kindred. Leicester the 24th of December.

Your loving and beholden cousins
Thomas Sacheverill.
Marie Sacheverill.

There is a third letter—one from the Rev. Tobias Heyrick, of Houghton, the son of Alderman Robert Heyrick—thanking Sir William for his Christmas gifts this year which I cannot resist giving notwithstanding its appearance already in Nichols (vol. ii. p. 629, No. 31):—

Grace and Peace.

Right Wor^{ll}: I thanke you very kindely for your kinde letter not long since received by the handes of one of my neighbours, and for your kinde token sent me more lately by our Leicester carrier. I take them both as goode argumentes of your syncere love unto me, and therfore I have thought goode to answere you at this present with my letter and my token, even love for love. What is wanting in them both, for the worthiness of your acceptance, and much more of your deserved recompense, I praie you either conceive as made up in harte good will, or pardon, because it is not made up in the tokens thereof. We have

made goode use allreadie of your token, and with us manie others also have fared the better for it, and yet the treasure is not drawne so dry but that some others maie, and I hope also shall, taste to their comfort of the sweetness thereof. And thus wishing that manie goode deedes you maie doe, and much comfort thereof you maie reape, with mine owne and my wives dutie rememembred to your selfe, my Ladie, and all my great and little cozens I kindely commend you and yours to God, me and mine to your praiers,

Houghton, Januarie 1, 1615[-16]

Yo^r loving Nephue
Tobias Heyrick.

[Postcript in the hand of his father, Alderman Robert Heyrick:—]

"The[re] be directed to youre howse in woodstrete 2 cheses waying 11^li caredge pd for."

To the right Wor^ll
my loving Uncle
Sr Wm Heyrick
Knight at his
house in Woodstreet
dd.

Note M, p. 132.

That Sir William not only did what his kinswoman wished, but was in other ways kind to her, is evident from the following letter written to him by Mrs. Walker very soon after he had received the above request:—

Lester the 29th of Januwary [1615-16].

My humble duty with your manifould kindnesses remembred doth cause this bouldness in mee to write theas few rewd lines to give you thankes for your care in the placeing of boath my sonnes as also for your kindness in beestowing a cloke of [on] my yonger sonne and his diat beefore his goeing to his master. I pray God still to multiply his blesings upon you and all yours as I dout not but hee will, and the rather for that good affection in you to doe good the poore fatherless and widow wee are all greatly bound to pray for you and by God's grace so wee will whilse wee have life. I thank you likewise for excepting [accepting] of that 200^li which I desired shuld bee put into your hand, it is allmost my whole estate and therefore I shall hardly bee able to above win 16^li a yeare out of it. I doe heere by one of our neighbores whoe had his son to bee the King's scoler there then it would bee but 20 nobles a year chardg unto mee. Hee saith there is an election of them scolers at every midsomer, and therefore hee thinks it more fit that Vin weare theare at scoole beefore that time that they which make choyce of such solers might see him. He is so fit for learning that I am loath to take him from it, and if it please God that ye asurance of that advouson bee made good unto mee as I hope by your meanes it shall, then I shalbee glad that I have made him a scoler; but if it bee not confirmed to mee nor money made of it beefore the oulde man's death, then I feere all wilbe lost. I heere it is worth a 100^li a yeere and I have noe hope of it but by your meanes. I pray you except [accept] of this handcerchew as of a poore widow's

mite, beeing sory I have not a better toaken to express my thankfulness. My father and mother, gives you thanks for your kindness towards my sonnes, and thus craving pardon for this bouldness I rest

Your poore kinswoman
Hester Walker.

I pray remember my
dutye to my Lady.

To the right Worshippfull her
very loving uncle Sir
William Herick at his
howse in Woodstreete
in London.

Note N, p. 133.

There are remaining some very early letters of Thomas Heyricke to his brother William, but he did not, like his brother Robert, maintain a correspondence with "the right worshipful knight" in London. The following business-like note, only partly given by Nichols, vol. iii. p. 1036, (mentioned in the above letter and enclosed in it) is therefore an exception to the silence he observed in later years:—

My commendations beinge remembrid,

This is to certefy you that one of my acquitance went this last weecke to London with Sir Oumfry of Swepson, which is from Lester 9 miles, and the said Sir Oumfrey tolde him that he beinge olde and in dete, wolde sell his lordshipe affter his life for reson now in hande; savinge one yeare he wolde resarve after his death. The said lordshipe is woth 9 hundrid pound a yeare: you may have it for lese then haulfe the purchis is now woth, and so fine a thinge as is possible: with fishepondes and all cummaudities belongginge to it. My next nebore, beinge well acquinted with him and the matter, will drive it through yf you will, and will knowe of the bely [*i.e.* the bailiff of the estate] justly what it is woth a yeare. For he breake it to him.

Also my brother Robert's wyfe willed me to make hir commendations to you, and saith yf you will you may have of mistris Arpwood hir daughter the Freares in Staumford, as it cost hir. And ther dwellith hard by a friend of yours, my lord of Exeter: and mistris Waste [probably West] that weare the goldesmithes wyfe your nebors.

This Sir Oumfrey hath no childe nor freinde, he said himselfe, to give it to.

Your lovinge Brother in what he may
Thomas Herick.

To the R. Worshipeful
and his very good
brother Sir William
Herick in Woodstreete
give this against
the counter in
London.

[Sir Thomas Humphrey, referred to in the above note, was High Sheriff of Leicestershire in 1602: knighted in 1603.]

Note O, p. 134.

Shortly afterwards a letter (partly given by Nichols, vol. i, p. 343) was written by the preacher himself to Sir William Heyrick thanking him for his fee for the Sermon, and also giving an account of the discontent shown by Sir Henry Hastings and others. He wrote thus:

Right W. After my verie hartie thanckes for the late fee wch my father [Alderman Robert Heyrick] hath delivered me from you, and for all your former kindnesses, these are to inform you of 2 matters. The former touching Mr. Babington . . . . . .
. . . . . .

The other poynt I woulde informe you of is about our gentryies and the men of Newark's absence from the late Sermon. When as (to have it done wth good will of all parties) we had not only gotten our bishop's allowance under his owne hand, but also Sr Henry Hastings and the doctor Chip[pendale] had granted us their good will. But it seemed that they did after repent, partly uppon S^r^. H. falling out into bitter words with Mr. Maior, and partly being urged hereunto by Sherman &c. whom it grieved to see the towne (as it weare) in triumph there, in that place about the which he had received the overthrow. And therefore they drew the meeting into the quarell about the jurisdiction of Newark and insomuch that word was sent to Mr. Maior in the sermon-tyme (by our ladyes man dwelling there, and in her name) that he should not let his mace be borne up as he should goe home, and Sr Henry, being sick that day and pretending that he would have been there if he had beene well, yet he did that afternoone send word to Mr. Maior that he did take offence at his carying up the mace, and it is out of doubt that there would not have been so generall an absence but uppon their knowledge of his mynde to have it so. But Sherman and his sonne Hemmings were abroad openly at that tyme that we might see that they did refuse to come. Now the doeings about the Sermon hath increased the displeasure and hartburning agaynst Mr. Maior, and in lykelyhood may provoke him to doe the more agaynst him or the towne by way of Certificate into the Duchye. And so craving pardon for my tediousness, I take my leave wth my humble duty to my ladye, and most harty prayer for your long preservation and the welfare of all your children. Leic. the eleventh of June

Your W. much bounden
To the right W. Sr Will'm Herricke Knight at his house in wood streete in London these be dd. Thomas Sacheverill.

[Seal: a Paschal Lamb.]

Dr. Chippendale mentioned above was Commissary to the Bishop of Lincoln. Sir Henry Hastings, who resided at that time in the Newarke, believed, or affected, with others residing there, to believe, that the mayor had no jurisdiction therein, and that therefore when he appeared officially, and with the insignia of his office within the walls, he ought to "slope" his mace in acknowledgment of the supremacy of the Duchy of Lancaster, in the same way in which he did when he entered within the royal Castle of Leicester, (as he does now,) once every year, to take oath that during his mayoralty he would infringe on none of the rights and privileges of the castle. Though that dispute arose from time to

time, the Mayor always stoutly, and I believe generally successfully, resisted the attempt to enforce the coveted obeisance (see the writer's "*Mayor's Seats in the Churches of Leicester*" p. 2.) The concise words of Alderman Heyrick "notwithstanding we did carry it" clearly shew there was little hesitation in the matter, and Serjeant Beswicke would no doubt lift the mace higher than usual after receiving Sir Henry's message, for he apparently resented so far as he could and dare any interference with what he considered the dignity and prerogatives of the town. Beswicke appears to have been the leader of a mob of men who tore down a gibbet which the Lord Lieutenant had caused to be set up on the Corn wall in the Market Place in Leicester to deter the people from continuing, or taking part in, the riotous proceedings which took place in 1606 against the enclosure of the open fields in many parts of the county. This act of the Mace bearer and his followers not only excited the anger of the Lord Lieutenant but placed the Mayor and his brethren in a difficult position, for they not only were obliged to re-erect the gibbet, but he caused the Mayor and Mr. Alderman Robert Heyricke to be confined to their own houses "wthoute deptinge from them before they had his honor's lycense for theire libertie." (The Chamberlains give several entries relating to this affair in their accounts for the year 1605-6. See also Mr. Kelly's "*Great Mace of Leicester*," p. 18, for the appointment of Richard Beswicke as Mace-bearer and the Mace-bearer's Oath.)

It is evident from the words in the Alderman's letter, "according to your desire," that this sermon was preached at the request or suggestion of Sir William Heyricke. He paid the preacher his fee. It took place on Monday, the 20th May, 1616, being Monday in Whitsun week, and was long continued under the auspices of the Heyricke family. Sir William Heyricke, having purchased Beaumanor, both he and his descendants living there sent £2 yearly for many successive years—£1 being for the preacher, who was nominated by the donor, and £1 for the poor inmates.

There is preserved at Beaumanor an Account Book of William Herrick, Esq., the grandson of Sir William Heyrick, and in it is the following note the substance of which is printed in Nichols' History of the County :—

A note of the names of those Minnisters that had preached the Whitson Sermon upon Whitson Monday in the old Aspitall yarde in Lecestre as followeth

	lb.	*s.*	*d.*
Docter Bright of Lougborow	02	00	00
Dot^{r} Cornfeild of Allson.	02	00	00
Mr. Beveridge of Barrow	02	00	00
Parson Alsop of Lancton	02	00	00
Doct^{r} Alefounder of Thurkiston	02	00	00
Mr. Faulckingam of Glenfield	02	00	00
Mr. Herricke of Harborow	02	00	00
Mr. Rogers of Segrave	02	00	00
Mr. Patchet of Barwell	02	00	00
May 15 1687 I give of that day to the Minister 20^{s} for Preaching the Sermon and 20^{s} to the poore of the old Aspitall of Leicester.			
Will Herricke			
	14	00	00

May 15, 1687 There was given that day to the poore of the Aspitall . . . . . 09 . 00 . 00

The names of Doctor Bright and Parson Alsop are subsequent insertions which account for the incorrect total of £14.

Ten years later—in 1697—for a reason which I am unable to give, no preacher was appointed by, and no contribution sent from, Beaumanor. This caused the Mayor of Leicester to address the following letter (which is also given in *History of Leicestershire*, vol. i. 347) to Mr. William Herrick respecting it:—

S^r^

You were pleas'd last Whitsontide to provide no Preacher nor make ye allowance to ye poor of ye Old Hospitall wch hath been continued so long to ye Honour and esteem of yo^re^ Family. If any offence hath been taken from any particular person I hope you will not impute yt to ye whole body, especially w^n^ you consider that the charity given by yo^re^ ancestors is ye cause of a further increase and reliefe to ye poor in that day wch upon consideration your selfe will thinke it great pitty to take away. I beg ye favo^re^ of an answer to

Yo^r^ faithfull Servt
John Cracroft Mayor.

To Wm Heyricke Esqr
at Beaumannor.

Note P, p. 135.

"That busy fellow Gib," whose name frequently turns up with reference to the Hospital in the Newarke, is referred to by the Chamberlains in their Accounts (for 1613-14 in MS.) as "one of the Almesmen and a Scotsman." He appears to have been a sort of representative or spokesman of the other inmates of the Hospital in the matter of its Incorporation, sometimes forwarding the town's scheme and sometimes attempting to thwart it. The Chamberlains speak of him and Sherman as having "plaide faulchoode in fellowshippe with the Towne to Mr. Chancellor of the duchie and others." A copy of a letter written by him from London to his fellow inmates soon after the delivery of the first Whitsuntide sermon just referred to, is preserved among the Heyricke Papers at Beaumanor (see also Nichols, vol. i. p. 343). It shows that he was then by no means satisfied that the Mayor notwithstanding the Letters Patent granted to him should have the control of the Hospital, and disparaged the late effort made for the benefit of the inmates. This is the copy:—

[Endorsed "The copie of Jo. Gibbes letter."]

Brother and Sister (*sic*)

My hartie comendacions to you and my wife's: concerninge the letter I receyved of you last, they saie it is all of my owne doinge, because I beare some mallis against the Towne, therefore I woulde wish you to gett Sr Henrie Hastinges' good will, and to drawe A peticion and gett the Justices handes to it of yor owne estate: for I have certified Mr. Attorney that I will complaine to the Kinge yf I maie not have remedie for it. As for the howse you shoulde builde me yf Mr. Maior will not give waie lett it alone till I come home, and I praye you hast up the retorne of your Commission and labor with the Justices to gett too there handes. Concernynge yor booke of Orders for placynge of the Countrie people, for there is greate braggs

made of there sermon that they doe soe much goode to you, which the Countrie woulde never doe the like. And soe I leave you att thys tyme Committinge you to God

Yo^r brother John Gibb
to his power.

This be delivered to William
Hyde at the olde hospitall

Note Q, p. 136.

Upon the death of Sir Thomas Parry in 1616 (see letter dated 12th June) Sir John Daccomb succeeded him as Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster. The Mayor and his brethren—at the suggestion of Sir Wm. Heyricke as we learn from the above letter—determined to present the new Chancellor with a silver cup. They dispatched one of the chamberlains to London with the following letter (printed by Nichols, vol. i, p. 345) to Sir William :—

Right Worshipfull

After our hartest comendacions with thankes for yor kinde remembrance unto us, in yor letter concernynge Mr. Dackham the new Chauncello^r of the Duchie, since which tyme we have not bene unmyndfull and nowe have sent upp this bearer Roger Cotes one of o^r Chamberlyns, unto you, that by yor Wor^pps directions he may provide A silver and gilte Cupp with a cover, as to yor discretion shal bee thought fitt, desireinge you to comende the saide Cupp to Mr. Chauncellor as a small tast of our faithfull love and and true affection towards him, with much desire of the contynnance of his Ho^rs love and favour towardes our poore Towne beinge one of the most auncientes townes in all the wholl Duchie. Thus beinge (as we have allwaies bene) boulde to trouble you, wee comende you to the protection of the Allmightie and alwaies rest

Yo^r Wo^pps verie lovinge freindes

Leicester the last of June 1616

To the right Worshipp^ll our verie lovinge friend Sr Will'm Heyricke Knight Bee theise

Will. Ive, Maior
Robart Heyricke
W^m. Morton
James Ellis
James Andrewe
Tho. Parkes
Thomas Manbie

With regard to this cup it may be further stated that the Chamberlains of the Borough charge £13—in their accounts for the year 1615-16 "for a deep silver bason weighing 46 oz. given to Sir John Dacombe, Knight, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, to signify the town's true affection for his honour, he being newly come to his place."

Note R, p. 137.

The Rev. Tobias Heyricke "the parson of good Houghton" thus acknowledges his uncle's usual Christmas gift :—

Salutem in Chro.

Right Wor^ll my wife and I returne unto you and my Ladie humble thankes for your late kinde remembrance of us, with your wonted

provision for our pies, &c. It is a token of your love to us, and a ty of our love to you, a monument to put us in minde of you being absent, and a meane to perswade us that you are soe mindefull of us as if we were present. Now, not to requite, but to resemble this token of your love to us, accept, I praie you of another evidence of our thankfullness to you; which, though it speake not so lowde, and come more late, yet your loving favors maie give it kinde audience, entrance and acceptance. And so you shall shew two good points of liberalitie meeting in you, the one in giving so much, the other in accepting of so little, or the one in your promptitude to give so quickly, the other in your patience to receive so lately. Thus wishing your perfection in all vertue, and especially in the mother, midwife, and princesse of all, that is, charitie, with due salutations remembered to yourselfe, my Ladie, and all my loving Cozens, I commend you and yours to God, me and mine to your praiers. Januarie 14. 1616 [-17]

Your loving Nephew
Tobias Heyrick.

I praie you let your man call at the carrier for a cake and cheese weighing thirteene pounds. The carriage is paide for.

To the right Wor[ll]
my loving Uncle
S[r] William Heyrick
Knight at his house
in Wood street
dd.

MELTON MOWBRAY TOWN ESTATE.

THERE is preserved amongst other ancient Papers relating to Melton-Mowbray, a document dated 1556-7 which is headed :—

> "The Reckoning and Account of us Richard Trayford and Thomas Postarn Wardens of the Town Land from the 24 day of September anno '56 unto the 24 day of September anno '57."

According to this document the Tenants of the Town Property at that time were

Robert Dixon	Roger Barnes
Nicolas Hineman	John Gibson
John Smith's wife	Agnes Dixon
William Dyng	William York
William Tatam	William Mason
William Pawley	John Farley
Alice Flower	John Lacey
Robert Odem	Harry Tolys
Hugh Cowell	Old William Halley
Denis Shepherd	William Halley
Jane Talis	Robert Kidyer
William Crecole	Master Lane
Mister Lane	Robert Thorpe
Hugh Spencer	Christopher Draper
William Trigg	Robert Parker
William Berry	Mistress Lacey
John Collington	Townsend of Sysonby

There is also another Document, dated a few years later, of which the following is a copy: the spelling in both instances is modernized :—

> "Rents due to the Town of Melton for one whole year ending Michaelmas 1561.

	s.	d.
Hugh Spencer a House and land	34	2
William Lane a house in Church Lane and for Davy Hooke	7	6
William Carver a house	1	6
William Hawley	1	6
Austin's house a Ley and a Balke		6
Robert Parker Two Lands		6
John Freeman of Sysonby		4
Elizabeth Smith	8	0
John Farley	6	0
William Mason	6	0
William Pawley	6	8
William Dyng	7	0
William York	6	0
Robert Grace	7	0
John Gibson	7	0
and for the Chapel	10	0
Thomas Spencer	13	4
Roger Jarvis	8	0
Goodwife Hawley	13	4
Nicholas Brown	6	8
Clement Giles 4 Cottages in Neat market chief rent	9	0
Roger Burnes his house	8	0
Bartholomew Wormwell a shop and Land	5	6
Robt. Kidyer	5	0
John Collington land at Sysonby	5	0
Rob. Thorpe a close in Welby		6
John Crow for a house	6	0
Robt. Cowper a house	5	0
Denis Shepherd a close and land	16	8
Agnes Measures a house	5	0
Nicolas Hineman's wife	2	0
Wm. Crecole a house	9	0
Henry Talis a house	30	0
Rob. Odam a close	3	0
Master Bailey land	4	2
Mistress Lacy land		20
Hawkins House		5
Spital Leys	17	0
John Grace a shop	13	4
Bradshaw of Nottingham a shop	13	4

Sum Total £7 . 10 . 7."

Doubtless many of the above were Chief-rents.

T. N.

Publications of the

Leicestershire Architectural and Archæological Society.

Its Transactions (Illustrated), Vol. I., in Four Parts 3s. 6d. each; to Members, 2s. 6d. each; or the volume in Cloth antique, Price 16s.; or to Members, 10s. 6d.

Its Transactions (Illustrated), Vol. II., in Four Parts; or any Part singly, the same price.

Its Transactions (Illustrated), Vol. III., in Four Parts, or any Part singly, the same price.

Its Transactions (Illustrated), Vol. IV., in Four Parts, or any Part singly, the same price.

Reports and Papers of the Associated Societies (Illustrated) for the years 1850 and 1855, and for the years 1864 to 1878 inclusive, 5s. each.

Leicester: Samuel Clarke.

Just published, (250 copies only) in Fcap. 4to., Cloth, Red Edges, 176 pp., with 40 Woodcuts, Price 10s. 6d.

The Church Bells of Rutland,

THEIR INSCRIPTIONS, TRADITIONS, AND PECULIAR USES, WITH CHAPTERS ON BELLS AND BELLFOUNDERS,

BY

THOMAS NORTH, F.S.A.,

Hon. Member and Hon. Sec. of the Leicestershire Architectural and Archæological Society, Hon. Member of the Derbyshire Archæological and Natural History Society.

Also by the same Author a similar Work (470 pp., with 125 Woodcuts, price 21s., and of which a few copies only are on sale) on

The Church Bells of Northamptonshire.

SOME OPINIONS OF THE PRESS:

"Three years ago we had the pleasure of reviewing Mr. North's excellent 'Church Bells of Leicestershire;' we have still greater pleasure in recommending the second instalment of a series of Books which, the author says, is designed to describe the Campanology of the diocese of Peterborough. Thanks to the devotion of enquirers like Mr. North, we shall, in the course of time, possess accounts of all the bells in England, but no compiler is likely to surpass Mr. North in care and diligence. This is saying a good deal, seeing what excellent volumes have been devoted to the subject."—*Athenæum.*

"One after another the bell lists of the different counties are being collected and published, and none of them better than those which have been undertaken by Mr. North."—*Notes and Queries.*

"Full, careful, and accurate for the most part."—*Saturday Review.*

"Mr. North, whose fulness of knowledge leaves nothing to be desired, has most admirably accomplished the second part of his large task of chronicling the campanology of the diocese of Peterborough .... [he] rightly devotes considerable space and attention to the bell 'uses' peculiar to Northamptonshire. The volume is excellently printed, and is liberally provided with illustrations. Mr. North has marshalled his materials in a way which leaves nothing to be desired."—*Church Bells.*

"... is full of matter which will be specially useful to those whose attention is being directed to bells as a new subject for research and its value is much increased by the copious references to authorities which will be found at the foot of every page. The chapter on 'Peculiar Uses' will be read with peculiar interest being very thoroughly done indeed.... Mr. North is strongest on the subject which he has made so thoroughly his own, and we heartily wish him health and strength not only to give us a book on the bells of the little county of Rutland, but also one on those of the great county of Lincoln."—*Archæological Journal.*

"The volume is one which not only Campanists but the public generally may peruse with pleasure and profit."—*Northampton Herald.*——"A handsomely printed, careful compilation.—*Northampton Mercury.*——"A handsome volume so well and appropriately illustrated."—*Newcastle Weekly Chronicle.*

SOME OPINIONS APART FROM THOSE OF THE PRESS:

From the Very Rev. Lord Alwyne Compton, Dean of Worcester, and late Archdeacon of Oakham:—

"I think your book ia a very complete and thorough account of our Northants Church Bells of which every antiquary in the county should have a copy."

From the Venerable F. H. Thicknesse, Archdeacon of Northampton:—

"I highly value your two Works descriptive of the Bells of Leicestershire and Northamptonshire; one copy of the latter work I have presented to our Cathedral Library, thinking it quite of sufficient importance to become one of our Diocesan Archives."

From the Annual Report of the Architectural Society of the Archdeaconries of Northampton and Oakham:—

"Mr. North, one of the Secretaries of the Leicestershire Society, the Editor of *The Church Bells of Leicestershire* has compiled all the information necessary for a similar work on the bells of Northants. The Committee .... recommended the work to the Members of the Society."

From the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, F.S.A., Author of "Bells of the Church," &c., &c.:—

"The beau-ideal of what such a Book should be."

LEICESTER: SAMUEL CLARKE.

19.

TRANSACTIONS

OF

THE LEICESTERSHIRE

Architectural and Archæological

SOCIETY.

VOL. V.—PART III.

LEICESTER:
SAMUEL CLARKE, 5, GALLOWTREE GATE.
1881.

Price Three Shillings and Sixpence.

[If sent in error to be returned to Mr. Samuel Clarke, 5, Gallowtree Gate, Leicester.]

GENEALOGY COLLECTION

TRANSACTIONS

OF

THE LEICESTERSHIRE

Architectural and Archæological

SOCIETY.

VOL. V.—PART III.

LEICESTER:
SAMUEL CLARKE, 5, GALLOWTREE GATE.
1881.

Contents.

PAGE.

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 27th May, 1878 165

Annual Summer Meeting at Cambridge, 16th and 17th July, 1878 166

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 29th July, 1878 168

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 30th September, 1878 . . . 169

Medbourne: A Paper by the Rev. J. H. Hill, F.S.A. . . 170

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 25th November, 1878 175

Notes on the Arms of Wigston, by Mr. North, F.S.A. . . 175

Annual Meeting, 27th January, 1879 178

Notes on Some Curiosities at Beaumanor Park, by Mr. North, F.S.A., *with Illustrations* 185

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 31st March, 1879 195

Notes on the Wigston Arms, by Major Bellairs, *with Illustration* . 197

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 26th May, 1879 199

Campden House, by the Rev. J. H. Hill, F.S.A. . . . 199

Annual Summer Meeting at Stamford, 28th and 29th May, 1879 . 204

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 28th July, 1879 215

Roman Leicester: Further Remarks Thereon, by Major Bellairs, *with Plan* 219

Annual Meeting, 26th January, 1880 224

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 29th March, 1880 . . . 231

Two Leicestershire Parish Registers, by the Rev. W. G. Dimock Fletcher 234

The Shackerstone Parish Register 241

THE LEICESTERSHIRE ARCHITECTURAL AND ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

May 27th, 1878.

The Rev. J. H. Hill, F.S.A. in the chair.

Resolved that the Annual Excursion of the Society this year be made to Cambridge.

Mr. G. A. Löhr, Leicester, was elected a member of the Society.

The following articles were exhibited :—

By the Rev. J. H. Hill : Silver and copper coins of James I., James II., William III., and George III., and others, some being very good specimens.

By Captain Whitby : A Germain coin, being one of three found at Fotheringhay Castle, in 1820.

By Rev. E. Tower : A small knife ($4\frac{1}{2}$ inches long including handle) found in the ruins of Croft Church, now in process of rebuilding. The use of this knife can hardly be connected with the church itself. The handle is remarkable, being of Pottery, perhaps made at the mediæval pottery works of Potter's Marston.

By Mr. J. Hunt : A dagger, about eighteen inches long, composed entirely of Chinese copper coins (with the exception of a thin piece of metal on which the coins were fastened) with a hollow ball of coins suspended from the haft, in all some hundreds in number.

By Mr. W. J. Freer : A copy of the Gaol Acts of 1774, presented by John Howard, the philanthropist. A branding iron with the letters "L.R." (Leicester rogues) for branding prisoners, and old orders relating to prisoners from the year 1778, one of which is as follows :—

(1789) At the Gaol delivery of the Castle of Leicester, on the 17th day of March, in the 19th year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third, King of Great Britain, &c., before the Honourable Sir James Eyre, Knight, one of the Barons of our said Lord the King of his Court of Exchequer, and others his fellows Justices, &c.

TO BE HANGED.

George Hibbard. For a robbery on the King's highway.

Reprieved. Thos. Reader. For stealing goods and monies above the value of 40s. in a dwelling house.

Mary Mould, aged 20 years. Convicted of grand larceny. Is branded in the left hand, and committed to the House of Correction there to be kept to hard labour for the space of one year next ensuing and then to be discharged.

(Signed) Frans. Waters,
Deputy Clerk of Assize.

Another—

1801. 41st year of George III. 27th July. (Assizes.)

TO BE HANGED.

Reprieved. Edward Dodson. For feloniously killing a sheep.
Reprieved. William Oram. For the same.
Reprieved. Thomas Chapman. For housebreaking.
Reprieved. Thomas Handford. For housebreaking.
Reprieved. William Brown. For burglary.

George Chapman. Convicted of stealing lead fixed to a building, and ordered to be transported beyond the seas for the term of seven years.

John Goodwin. Convicted of grand larceny is ordered to be publickly whipped on the market day in the next week at Leicester, the length of one hundred yards and discharged.

Thomas Ashby. Convicted of a fraud and misdemeanor, is ordered to be imprisoned in gaol one year.

DELIVERED BY PROCLAMATION.

James Booth.
Elizabeth Windridge.
Ann Sowter.

(Signed) Jno. Fredk. Holditch,
Deputy Clerk of Assize.

The Rev. J. B. Dickson, LL.D., read an interesting and eloquent Paper on

FOTHERINGHAY CASTLE,

which was printed in the Volume of the Associated Societies for the year 1878.

THE ANNUAL SUMMER MEETING

for 1878 was held, as arranged, at Cambridge, on Tuesday and Wednesday, July the 16th and 17th. The arrangements at

Cambridge were kindly undertaken and admirably carried out by the Rev. S. S. Lewis, F.S.A., the Honorary Secretary of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society.

Tuesday, July 16th.

The members and friends of the Society assembled at the University Arms Hotel, and first visited the various collections of pictures, statuary, engravings, mediæval illuminations, Greek coins, and local Romano-British antiquities in the Fitzwilliam Museum, throughout which they were conducted by the director, Professor Colvin.

After luncheon they were escorted by the Rev. the Master, through the chapel, hall, library, &c. of Peterhouse, where the stained glass of the fifteenth century east window commanded general attention, as did likewise the painted windows recently added from the designs of Professor Ainmüller, of Munich. At the adjacent church of S. Mary the Less, the Vicar, Dr. Guillemard, was in readiness, and pointed out the gallery connecting church and college, and other interesting architectural features. The next point made was Queens', the College of Erasmus, where Mr. Clark and the Rev. A. Wright guided through the gardens, chapel hall, and library of their Old House, which bears a striking resemblance to Haddon Hall, both in its ground-plan and in its internal arrangement. In the library, amongst other treasures, there was shown a noble folio manuscript of S. Augustine, and a very interesting transitional Prayer Book issued in the reign of Henry VIII. Thence passing through the quadrangle of S. Catharine's College, the visitors entered the library of Corpus Christi College, and inspected amongst the manuscripts the copy of the Gospels which S. Austin of Canterbury is said to have used, the original draft of xlii Articles (1562), Bishop Clifford's Pontifical and the original Saxon Chronicle. Hence they passed through the ninth century tower and restored church of S. Benedict, and attended the choral evening service in the chapel of Henry the Sixth's "Royal and Religious" foundation (King's College), and afterwards inspected the curious passage between the ceiling and the roof.

Wednesday, July 17th.

The proceedings on this the second day of the meeting began with a visit to Gonville and Caius College, where Mr. Bensly, Fellow and Librarian, commented upon the portraits and other treasures of the hall, combination room, and library. Similar attention was received from Mr. Atkinson at Trinity Hall, where

the original method of securing books to the library desks was shown and explained. After a few minutes under Dr. Luard's guidance in Great S. Mary's Church, Mr. Bradshaw (University Librarian) exhibited and commented upon some of the most notable manuscripts and early printed books in the University Library; and after a short visit to the Senate House, the party proceeded to Trinity College, where they were received by Mr. Cobb, Senior Fellow, and the Rev. R. Sinker, Librarian of the College. Full justice was done to the noble series of portraits which adorn the chapel, and to the wondrous tones of the organ. The hall, butteries, and kitchen were duly noted, and attention paid to the literary, artistic, and numismatic treasures of the library, and particularly to the gorgeous Canterbury Psalter, and to a remarkable series of Greek coins reproduced in electrotype. The Rev. Professor Mayor and Professor C. C. Babington gave a lucid history of the architecture of S. John's College in its various stages, and especially of the new chapel by Sir Gilbert Scott, and of its predecessor. Early college plate, interesting manuscripts, and service books were also shown.

After luncheon, Mr. Pattrick (Fellow of Magdalene College) exhibited and explained the most notable books and engravings in the Pepysian Library; whence, after viewing some traces of old Camboritum and the later fortifications of Castle Hill, the visitors inspected the very early Norman Church of S. Peter, and its modern neighbour, that of S. Giles, and concluded their afternoon with the School of Pythagoras (where Mrs. Taylor most hospitably entertained them with tea and coffee), and a glance at Milton's mulberry tree in the noble gardens of Christ's College.

It will be seen from this brief sketch of the proceedings how well the arrangements were made, and how much of the interest attaching to the buildings of Cambridge and their valuable contents was brought within reach of the members in the short space of time at their disposal. The intricacies of Cambridge streets were happily unravelled by an excellent map which was most kindly provided for them by Mr. W. P. Spalding, bookseller.

July 29th, 1878.

The Rev. J. H. Hill, F.S.A., in the chair.

The Rev. S. S. Lewis, F.S.A. of Cambridge was elected an honorary member, as an acknowledgment of the great trouble taken by him during the late meeting of this Society at Cambridge.

Votes of thanks were passed to Professor Babington and those Heads of Colleges who so kindly assisted at the meeting.

The Chairman exhibited a brass token or medal inscribed

VIGI . QVI . NISI . DOMI . CVSTO . CIVI . & . CALCVLI .
ÆDILVI NANNETENSIVM 1642

and observed that the Ædile was an officer at Nantes who took charge of the weights and measures.

September 30*th*, 1878.

The Rev. J. H. Hill, F.S.A., in the chair.

Sir B. Cunard, Bart., was elected a President of the Society, and Messrs. John Day, Wm. Gleadow, and Wm. Hobbes, were elected members.

The following antiquities were exhibited:

By Mr. J. E. Weatherhead, late curator of the Leicester Museum: Six Fibulæ, of various patterns, one of which bears evident traces of being enamelled, Eagle's Head, a Stylus, three Pins, Coin of Vespasian, Head of a Cow, &c., which last article Mr. Weatherhead believes to be part of the handle of a bucket, found at the depth of nine feet with bones and broken pottery and other relics in excavating for foundations for buildings in the Royal Arcade, High Street, Leicester, a few months since. With the bronzes were found fragments of Samian ware, a large earthen cinerary urn (with calcined bones inside) about two feet high; fragmentary portions of glass cinerary urns, Boars' tusks, and some curious articles made of bone: it is difficult to say what these last mentioned objects originally were: similar ones have been found with other Roman remains in London. They seem adapted for implements of some kind in artizans' work, but for what particular purpose these found in Leicester were applied, it is now difficult to determine.

By Mr. T. Nevinson: Seven photographs of very elaborate and elegant designs in plaster work on the outside of an old house of the time of Elizabeth at Wivenhoe, near Colchester. An impression of the Trinity Hospital Seal now in use given by Sir William Heyricke, in 1615, to the Hospital.

By the Chairman: Two books, by Sir John Harrington, being a collection of prose and verse, very rare. Printed by William Frederick, at Bath, vol. 1 in 1769, and vol. 2 in 1775. Also, a silver penny of Edward I. and a sixpence of Queen Elizabeth, both recently found at Cranoe; and some photographs of a frescoe at Medbourne, upon which an able and interesting paper was afterwards read.

By Mr. John Hunt: An Induction (in Latin) of Isaac Mould, by the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, to the living of Appleby,

County of Leicester, dated 23rd September, 1677; also, a silver penny of George III.

By Mr. H. S. Jones: A most handsomely bound illustrated Prayer Book, dated 1676; binding original.

The Rev. J. H. Hill then read the following Paper upon Medbourne and its Antiquities.

MEDBOURN.

The village of Medbourn is pleasantly situated about six miles north-east of Market Harborough, and is bounded on its southern side by the river Welland, into which a tributary stream (passing close by the parish church) empties its waters. The derivation of its name arises from the word mead or meadow on the burn or brook; it was anciently written Meteburn or Medburne. The town was situated on the *Via Devana* which extended from *Camalodunum* (Colchester) to *Deva Colonia* (Chester). Mr. Burton states that Medbourn had doubtless been a Roman station, as a great many coins had been found there. The *Via Devana* entered Cambridgeshire, in the neighbourhood of Fenny Stanton, proceeded to Godmanchester, on to Alconbury, thence to Buckworth and Old Weston, and entered into Northamptonshire in the vicinity of Clapton. The road enters Leicestershire near Bringhurst, from whence it proceeds to Medbourn—an undoubted station upon it. This ancient Roman road passes on through Slawston, takes a left turn in that parish, and goes below the hill into the parish of Cranoe, by a field called Port Hill, and so on to another field in the parish of Cranoe called Salterswey, crossing the Cranoe and Welham road by Church Field Leys, on to Burrow Hill in the parish of Glooston. Hence it passes on in almost a straight line to Leicester, between the villages of Great and Little Stretton. It joined the Foss Way near the southern side of the town of Leicester, and from thence it took a north-west direction, and most probably passed by Ratby, where there is a large entrenchment in the form of a parallelogram, and so on to Ashby-de-la-Zouch and Burton to *Deva Colonia*. William, Bishop of Cork and Ross, thought that Medburn might originally be called Medium, a name not uncommon with Itineraries. In the north-west of the village of Medburn are the remains of entrenchments, with foundations, &c., covering a plot of ground of about half-a-mile square. Tradition says that in this field once stood a city called Medenborough, or Medenburough, which was destroyed by fire. In earlier times the undisturbed part of the Roman road was lofty and visible for four or five hundred yards, and in the field where it passed through were three barrows or *tumuli*. Two of these have been removed, and the mill stands upon the third. Numerous coins, pieces of pottery, bones, and a small mill-stone

have been discovered there. The silver coins were of the reigns of Vespasian, Domitian, Antoninus, Honorius, and Arcadius. Burton says there is a tradition among the inhabitants that there was once a monastery here, founded by one of the Mercian kings, which I have seen also confirmed by a vellum MS., in which there was said to be a sanctuary by the Saxons, called the Seat of Peace: in this MS. it states that Medbourn was burnt by the Danes in 1010. Wyrley also quotes this "Medebourne, ubi quondam fuit monasterium." Not far from the church (about fifty yards to the west of it), a tessellated pavement was discovered in 1721, but it was filled up again at that time. It was reopened in 1793, and again covered up, but in 1876 it was not only reopened, but removed from its position to be placed in some London museum. Mr. Dibbin, of Hallaton, has made a very accurate drawing of this really beautiful Roman remain, a photograph of which was exhibited at our meeting last January, in the great room of the Town Museum at Leicester. This pavement has been fully described by him at one of the former meetings of our Society. The church at Medbourn, dedicated to S. Giles, is situated on a mound which was originally surrounded by a moat. Its character is that of an English cross church, with a double aisle on the south side, and a transept. Part of the north side is walled off, and until lately had been used as a school. On the south side there appears to have been two chantries, belonging to different families or manors, as there are sedilia and two piscinæ. In the chancel are two piscinæ, so that the chancel must have been lengthened at some time. This chancel, which is much longer than the nave of the church, has been admirably restored by Mr. Edwin Dolby, architect, and it is to be hoped that as the rector has so very well carried out his part of this venerable structure, the remaining portion will be completed in the same excellent manner. Medbourn church, being of special archæological interest, is well worth restoring, and when properly finished, will rank amongst the most remarkable ecclesiastical edifices in the county. Some short distance north of this venerable building there is an old Manor House, well deserving the inspection of the antiquary. It was formerly the property of one of the Chaworth family, who erected certainly one of the chantries in the church. This ancient house was visited by our Society some twenty years back, and a paper was written by the late lamented Mr. Gresley, our indefatigable secretary at that time, and etchings were made of it by Mr. Bellairs and myself. The date of the building is of the latter part of thirteenth century. The house is in the shape of the letter T, the upper part of the letter being the original mansion, to which the lower part had been subsequently added. The present entrance passage to the house runs across these two parts, and in it, in the wall of the upper part of the T, are three pointed arches, the dripstones of which

have been chipped off since our visit, to allow of the wall being papered. This appears to have been the entrance to the lower apartments of the house, and I am glad to say the present owner, Sir Bache Cunard, Bart., has had these doorways opened and restored. Further, or near the end, this passage was lighted by a small, narrow, square-headed window, widely splayed internally, and very remarkable for its having a wooden shutter instead of being glazed; the hinges of the shutter were at the top of the window, so that it opened upwards, and was held in its place by a button fastened to the roof of the passage. This might have been the chapel window, perhaps the whole south part of the house was originally a large hall. Projecting from the south side of the house is a massive chimney of several stages, which contained the fireplace of the lower room on the ground floor, and of the large upper room, which was the part usually used by the master of the house and family. The high pitched roof of this room has been cut off by a floor and formed into attics. The two arched timbers of the roof of the hall still remain, and they have on one edge of them nail head ornaments, that is, the nail heads are formed simply by bits of the beam being left on, instead of the whole being chamfered off. At the east end of this part of the building there remained one of the original windows—it consisted of two pointed lights, separated by a mullion with a moulded capital. The remaining windows of this ancient house appear to have been inserted in the seventeenth century.

I have now to call to your notice a photograph taken from a drawing of some frescoes found only a few days back in this old manor house, which is undergoing restoration by its present proprietor, Sir Bache Cunard, Bart., who kindly sent for me to examine them as soon as they were discovered. The frescoes appear to have been done about the reign of King James the First, and the subjects were painted in panels, surrounded by borders. The most perfect one was that of an esquire of the period in his feathered cap, doublet and trunk-hose; another, not so complete, a lady with her arms extended, with a morion and feathers on her head. The frieze which went round the room was really very beautiful, the details of which were drawn from classic sources, Sirens holding medallions with the letters M.P. and T.P. in the centre of them. There is no doubt that this relic of the olden time was the manor house of Thomas de Chaworth, who was one of the Lords of the Manor of Medbourn in the 19th year of Edward I. (1290), for we find at that time John de Kirkeby, heir of Amicia de Gorham, lord of Holt, had land and a *capital messuage* of Thomas de Cadurcis, or Chaworth; now this capital messuage did not mean an excellent house, but the mansion of the lord of the manor. I must again revert to the chantry of Medbourn church, in the south transept of which church there still remains

the effigy of a knight with his armorial bearings now much mutilated. Burton, in his admirable history of the county in the seventeenth century, says, "in a window (is) the picture of an armed man kneeling, on whose surcoat, Azure, two chevrons Or; and under the said window, an ancient monument, on whose shield is the same arms." Nichols, in his volume of the county, part 2 of vol. II., has a drawing of the knight kneeling upon a cushion, with his sword by his side and spurs on, his hands clasped together uplifted in the act of prayer. This glass has been unfortunately taken away from the church, which is much to be regretted. Over the door of one of the rooms of this house was this inscription :—

The house shall be preserved,
And never shall decay,
When the Almighty Lord is served,
And worshipped day by day.

And over the fireplace of the same room :—

by the fire,
Thyself to warme,
See that thy tongue,
Doth thy neighbour no harme.

The Chaworth family settled in Nottinghamshire at a very early period; the house at Wiveton in that county was castellated and garrisoned during the civil wars. The first time their name is mentioned at Medbourn is in the year 1256, when Thomas Chaworth had a grant of free warren. Ten years later King Henry the Third granted to John de Kirkeby and Thomas de Chaworth the privilege of a market and fair to be held in their manor of Medbourn. In 1278, Amicia de Gorham held land of Sir Thomas de Chaworth. In 1302, William de Kirkeby died seized of a certain manor held of Thomas de Chaworth, who held it under the Lords of Belvoir. In 1370 we find that Thomas Chaworth held the manor as of the castle of Belvoir. Again, in 1458, we find a Thomas Chaworth holding the manor, and Henry le Scrope, of Bolton, quarter of the manor, and the advowson, and William Chaworth possessed it in 1467. The last time we hear of the Chaworths being possessed of this manor was in 1483 when Thomas Chaworth died seized of the same. The Belvoir manor was restored to Thomas Neville in the year 1565. Camden in his *Britannia* says that in the 20th year of William the Conqueror, Edward, of Salisbury, had a son called Walter, who founded a small monastery at Bradenstoke, and he had a son Patrick, who was the first Earl of Salisbury, by Sibilla de Cadurcis, or Chaworth. This Patrick was slain A.D. 1169 by Guy de Lusingnan. (*Camden's Britannia*, p. 117.) It also appears Margaret, the sister of William de Briewer, came into the possession of the castle of Bridgewater, by whose daughter which she bore to William de la Fert, it came

to the family of Chaworths, and from thence by inheritance to the Dukes of Lancaster. Camden, in recounting the history of Alfreton, in Derbyshire, says that Robert, the son of Ranulph, was lord of that place, but in default of heirs (male) the estate passed with his two daughters to the family of the Cadurci or Chaworth, and to the Lathams, in the county of Lancaster. Camden in his history of Buckinghamshire (p. 331) states that William, of Ailesbury, held the manor royal of Ailesbury of the king on condition that the holders of it should find litter (*i.e.*, straw) for the king's bed (I hope the nice part of the world will observe this) whenever he should come thither. When the king came in winter, he was to straw his chamber, and to provide him three eels, but if in summer, besides straw for the bed, he was to provide sweet herbs for the king's chamber, and two green geese, all which he was to do thrice every year, if the king came so often thither. These de Ailesburys were noted in the reign of Edward the First, and one of them married an heiress of the Cahaignes, of Middleton Cheney, and by her came to a plentiful estate, which afterwards fell by marriage to the Chaworths or de Cadurcis, and Stafford. I will not trespass upon your time by carrying out the whole history of this famous family, formerly lords of the manor of Medbourne. The male issue is now extinct, but it is most worthily represented by John Chaworth Musters, of Annesly Hall, Nottinghamshire, formerly the master of the Quorn hounds, Leicestershire, and grandson of Mary Chaworth, spoken of by Lord Byron, as

> "Herself the solitary scion left
> Of a time-honoured race."

NOTES ON PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL.

The Rev. Mackenzie E. C. Walcott, F.S.A., contributed some learned notes on Peterborough Cathedral, with special reference to certain omissions and errors in Gunton's History of that edifice. The Prebendary pointed out the sources from which a new editor of that valuable, and now rare, work would glean much and varied information hitherto unpublished, and briefly showed a few prominent points on which an editor's care might be spent with advantage to archæologists. Notes were added upon feasts *in cappis* and *in albis*—upon the *Domus Hospitum*—upon the altars—upon the Chapels—upon the correspondence of Peterborough with other eastern Benedictine Minsters, and upon the documentary history of the claustral buildings. To these notes, which were printed in the volume of the Associated Societies for the year 1878, the learned contributor annexed a list of the Abbots of Leicester, 23 in number, from Ricardus, the first Abbot in 1144, to the last, Johannes Bourchier, A.D. 1534.

November 25th, 1878.

The Rev. J. H. Hill, F.S.A., in the chair.

Captain Whitby was elected an honorary member of the Society.

The following antiquities were exhibited:—

By Mr. Thomas Nevinson: an ornamented key, said to have belonged to Leicester Castle, and supposed to have been made when the Castle was partially fitted up in the time of Charles II. It has a crown on the top.

By the Chairman: a half-crown of Charles I.

By Mr. T. Morley: a Saxon (?) head of lead, found at Sysonby near Melton Mowbray.

Mr. A. H. Paget read a valuable Paper on

WILLIAM WYGGESTON AND HIS HOSPITAL,

Illustrated by numerous well executed water-colour drawings and sketches.

This Paper was printed in the Volume of the Associated Societies for the year 1878.

Mr. North, F.S.A., contributed the following

NOTES ON THE ARMS OF WIGSTON.

I received, some months ago, a note from an antiquarian friend in Leicester, saying that upon all the new buildings lately erected in that town by the Trustees of Wigston's Charity, the sculptured arms of the Founder are incorrectly given—the shield being, in his opinion, wrongly given as *ermine* instead of charged with *guttées*. This question may well be raised by any one taking the ancient sculptured arms of the old Hospital lately taken down, and the engravings of them given by our county historian, as guides. The arms, as sculptured over the door of the chapel of the old hospital, are read by my correspondent as *Per chev. ar. and sa. guttée counterchanged chev. per chev. sa. & ar. on the first three estoiles, or.* Over the door of the Chantry House in the Newarke the arms are now clearly *ermine*, but they were, he informs me, "touched up" by a local builder some years ago, and their distinctive character in this respect very possibly altered.

Turning to Nichols' *History* (volume i. p. 495, and also plate xxxiv.), we find four references to the founder's arms, and four engravings of them, viz., those on a tablet supported by two angels, over the entrance door of the old hospital, lately demolished (fig. 3); those on the common seal of the hospital (fig. 4); those on a smaller seal than used occasionally for leases (fig. 5); and

those then formerly existing in painted glass in the south window of the chapel. In the case of the first of these—the others are only referred to in the text as "the founder's arms"—Mr. Nichols describes it as "*Ermine* on a chevron sable, three estoiles Or." It is singular that whilst this description of the charge on the field of the coat coincides with the engravings of figs. 4, 5, and 6, where *ermine* is shown, it is incorrect in the case of the engraving of the arms over the entrance to the hospital, where the engraving apparently shows *guttées*. There being evidently an ambiguity here, it seems desirable to take advantage of the opportunity given by the reading, by Mr. Paget, of the Paper you have just heard, to endeavour to set the question raised by my correspondent at rest. The connection between the Wyggestons of Leicester and those of Warwickshire is a fact well-known (see Nichols i., 504), so that the following arms "confirmed by Lennard and Vincent to Roger Wigston of Wolstan, Co. Warwick, grandson of Roger Wigston, of the same place, who was fifth in descent from John Wigston, of Leicester, merchant,"* will help to elucidate the matter in hand :—"Erm. a chev. per chev. sab. and arg. on the first three mullets Or. *Crest*, a wolf's head erased per pale az. and Or guttée counterchanged;" note here three *mullets* not *estoiles* and with this agree the arms of Wigston as given in the *Visitation of Warwickshire* (1619), published by the Harleian Society. The same arms (with estoiles in the place of mullets) are assigned to Sir William "Wigstoun," of Wolston, in *Harl. MSS.*, 6060. The epitaph of that gentleman, who died 27th September, 1577, is given by Dugdale in his *Antiquities of Warwickshire*, who also gives a shield of arms, from the east window of Wolston Church, of Wigston, impaling Langley, and another quartering Langley, in which *ermine* is distinctly given. It will thus be seen that, so far as the Warwickshire family of Wigston is concerned, the descriptions of arms show conclusively that *ermine* is the correct field as used by them. With reference, more distinctly, to the Leicester family there is a Deed preserved amongst a very valuable collection of Charters and Evidences in the Muniment Room of the Corporation of Coventry, which will be useful for the purposes of our inquiry. It is thus described in a *Selected List*, drawn up, and some years ago privately printed by Mr. John Fetherston, F.S.A., a gentleman well-known as a good herald, and a careful genealogist :—"15. Grant of lands in Coventry, Keresley, Foleshill, Bubbenhall and Weston, from William Wigston, of Leicester, merchant of the Staple of Calais, and Richard Walker, of Coventry, mercer, to Henry Over, of the same, mercer, and others. Dated 1st June, 27th Henry VIII. Two seals of red wax: 1st device, ermine, on a chevron per

* Kittermaster's *Warwickshire Arms and Lineages.*

chevron, three etoiles. On either side of the shield the initials, W. W., autograph :—'p'me William Wygston';" second, a merchant's mark, "p'me Rychard Walker." This Deed being dated in 1535 was not probably executed by the founder of the hospital, but possibly by his nephew William, the son of Roger Wigston, member in Parliament for Leicester in 1523, which William is described in the pedigree given by Nichols, as of Wolston, Co. Warwick, sheriff 1551; died 19th September, 1576. He may have retired from his Leicester business to Wolston after the execution of the Deed just referred to. In order to test the accuracy of Mr. Fetherston's description, I desired our corresponding member for Coventry, Mr. W. J. Fretton, F.S.A., to be good enough to search out the Deed in the muniment room in that city, and carefully to note the point in question. He has kindly done so, and in a letter I received from him on Friday last he (after giving me the above extracts relating to the Warwickshire family) says:—"The seal is of red wax, about an inch in diameter; there is no counter-seal. The impression is not so clear as could be desired, and with the exception of one in the sinister chief portion of the shield, the traces are very indistinct; that one is very clearly *ermine*, and the others tend more to this form than to *guttée*."

There seems little doubt that such of the family of Wigston, whether in Leicestershire or Warwickshire, whose arms are ascertainable, used ermine and not guttées on their shield. This does not, however, entirely clear up the question as to what are the correct arms of the *Hospital* of William Wigston in Leicester. Let us see whether the seals in use at the Hospital will help us. *The Visitation of Leicestershire, in* 1619, lately published by the Harleian Society, does not assist us, for there is nothing said therein relating to the matter. This tends to prove that no special grant was made to the Founder for his Hospital. In that for 1683, now preserved in the College of Arms, we find two sketches, over which is written in pencil "Wigston's Seals." One of these is ermine a chevron party per chevron arg., and [colour not marked] the upper portion charged with three etoiles of six points. Crest :—a wolf's head erased. The other sketch, of a larger size, shows the same arms, but no crest, surrounded with the words :—DATE ELEMOSYNAM ET ECCE OMNIA MUNDA SUNT VOBIS, this again surrounded with SIGILLUM HOSPITALIS GULIELMI WIGSTON. These seals are therefore synonymous with those engraved by Nichols (figs. 4 and 5 mentioned previously), and which are thus shown to have been used for more than a hundred years before Nichols wrote his History. I therefore show that such members of the family of Wigston whose arms are known to us used ermine on the field of their shield, and some of them charged the chevron thereon with

mullets, some with etoiles, and that the seals used by the Hospital for the last two hundred years agree substantially therewith. The difficulty however still remained with regard to the sculptured arms lately over the door of the ancient Hospital, which certainly appeared to bear guttées on the shield and not ermine. To get the best available opinion as to the correct reading of the shield I sent an exact drawing, kindly made for me by Major Bellairs, to a correspondent in the College of Arms, who in returning it to me writes: "I have shown your picture to one of our best heralds, and he pronounced it to be ermine spots, and not guttées. As in the two coats in the last Visitation of Leicestershire they are DECIDEDLY ermine spots, I have no hesitation in blazoning the enclosed as follows:—

> "*Per chevron ermine and ermines a chevron per chevron sa. and arg., the upper part thereof charged with three estoiles or.*"

So there I leave the matter.

27*th January*, 1879.

ANNUAL MEETING.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE EARL OF GAINSBOROUGH in the chair.

After the transaction of business in Committee, Captain G. F. Richardson, of Leicester, was elected a member of the Society.

THE ANNUAL REPORT

for the past year was read as follows:

THE Committee of the Leicestershire Architectural and Archæological Society, on presenting the Twenty-fourth Annual Report, will first refer to—

THE ANNUAL MEETING AND EXCURSION.

Having arranged for a Public Meeting in Leicester, in January last, at which Mr. Neale exhibited his fine drawings of St. Alban's Abbey, and read a valuable Paper thereon, your Committee did not think it desirable to have another Meeting in the summer for the reading of Papers. Instead of the usual programme, a visit to Cambridge was made on the 16th and 17th of July, where, under the genial and learned guidance of the Rev. S. S. Lewis, M.A., F.S.A., the Honorary Secretary of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society, many of the Members of this Society enjoyed not only an inspection of the principal Colleges and Halls, but of the fine Libraries of books and manuscripts, and the contents of the Fizwilliam Museum. The kindness experienced at Cambridge, and the readiness with which every place was thrown open, will long be remembered with grateful pleasure by all present.

Papers Read.

The following Papers have been read before this Society during the past year:—By Mr. Neale, F.S.A., on *St. Alban's Abbey*, profusely illustrated; by Mr. North, F.S.A., on the *Parish Records of Saxelby;* by the Rev. Dr. Dickson, on *Fotheringhay Castle;* by the Rev. J. H. Hill, F.S.A., on *Medbourne;* by the Rev. Prebendary Mackenzie E. C. Walcott, F.S.A., on *Peterborough Cathedral;* by Mr. A. H. Paget, on *William of Wigston and his Hospital*, largely illustrated.

The Bi-Monthly Meetings.

The interest of the bi-monthly Meetings has been fairly kept up during the year, but the attendance has not been large. Mr. Weatherhead exhibited at the September Meeting some interesting Roman relics found in Leicester during excavations between the High Street and Silver Street. In addition to that discovery another may be noted in Burley's lane, in February last. In sinking the foundation for a pier of brickwork the workmen went down through fourteen feet of gravel—which had apparently filled up a hollow—and at that depth they found three vessels, of a dark-coloured ware, similar to that which was made at Upchurch in Kent. The largest vessel found in Burley's Lane measured $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height, by $6\frac{3}{4}$ at its greatest diameter, and 4 inches at its mouth. It was roughly ornamented by reticulated markings round the neck. The second vessel was not so large. The third was 4 inches in height, and 5 inches in diameter at the mouth. It was thus bowl shaped. Unfortunately it was damaged by a workman's pick. The urns contained earth only, but near to them a few animals' bones were found. The Papers just referred to as being read during the year much added to the interest of the bi-monthly Meetings.

The Publications of the Society,

As usual, will shortly be placed in your hands. The fourth volume of our own Transactions is completed, and contains much matter of local interest and value.

Library Committee.

A Sub-Committee was appointed to make a Catalogue of the Society's Books, Papers, &c., and have partly completed its work. A Catalogue of the Books, Pamphlets, and Drawings is now laid before you, and a list of the unbound parts of the Society's Transactions and of the Reports and Papers of the Associated Societies will shortly be completed.

The Society's Badge.

In common with Societies of a similar character with your own, your Committee have thought it desirable that a Badge should be adopted to place on the title page of Transactions and other Papers. After due consideration it has adopted a slightly modified copy of an ancient seal of the time of Edward III., which once belonged to the Corporation of Leicester. The matrix of this seal has long been lost, and only one impression (in the possession of Mr. Llewellyn Jewitt) is now known to exist. The Badge, like the seal, is circular in shape, and the design consists of the Virgin and Child seated under a richly decorated niche or canopy, having at the base a shield of the town arms. These arms were adopted from those of the Norman Earls of Leicester, and so were borne by the founder of Leicester Abbey, and by the great bene-

factor to the collegiate church of S. Mary, in the Newarke. There being no arms belonging to the county of Leicester as such, your Committee think the use of those now indicated upon the Badge the most appropriate, while the architectural design of the whole is not, it is hoped, out of character with the objects of the Society.

Parish Records.

The great value of these, as not only illustrating local history, but as supplying, in very many parishes, the only source from which it can be derived during the past 300 years, is now so universally recognized, and the clergy and churchwardens are becoming so alive to the fact, that it may seem superfluous to insist upon it now. As a warning, however, your Committee may mention that Nichols in his account of the Parish of Shackerstone in this county, said (about the year 1800) that the Registers there began in the year 1630: but, in the population abstract return of 1831, no Register was found before 1779; recently, at a sale at Beverley, Yorkshire, was found among some miscellaneous papers, the parish Register of this parish, dating from 1558 to 1630, an earlier one even than came under the notice of Nichols. This valuable Leicestershire manuscript has been secured by the Bodilean Library, Oxford, where it is now preserved in Gough's *Additions*. Another Leicestershire Register—that of Somerby from 1601 to 1715—is in the British Museum (Add. MS. 24,802). Your Committee hope shortly to have the contents of these two Registers brought under the notice of this Society.

Your Committee has again to call your attention to some works of Church Restoration completed or begun during the past year.

Rothley.

The parish church of Rothley, dedicated to S. John Baptist, had, for many years, been loudly demanding restoration. It is a fine church with a nave of four bays, north and south aisles and chancel. The latter shows evidence of the greatest antiquity, having been erected about the middle of the thirteenth century. The naves and aisles perhaps sixty or seventy years later; and the western embattled tower was probably raised about the year 1400. Long neglect had set its mark most emphatically upon nearly the whole of the edifice. The chancel was low, dark, and damp; the walls were so much shattered and out of the perpendicular that a collapse was threatened, and the roofs were too rotten to be safely trodden by the workmen. The furniture was very mean—the pulpit, reading pew, and clerk's desk, all of deal, rose one above the other in the approved fashion of seventy years ago—the pews were high and narrow—an ugly gallery at the west end blocked up the tower arch—indeed the whole aspect, internally, was most depressing and disheartening. Outside, too, great difficulties faced the restorer; for the burials of many generations had so raised the surface of the ground that it not only stood some feet higher than the church floor, but in some parts almost peeped into the windows. It will thus be seen that the Rector and those laymen who rallied round him had no easy task to perform in restoring the edifice to something like its pristine beauty, and the churchyard to such a state that the building should not be injured by the damp, or the worshippers by the inconveniences arising from such a state of things. Mr. R. Reynolds Rowe, F.S.A., of Cambridge, was called upon to report as to what should be done. His suggestions were, in the main, carried out, and the result is that Rothley Church is now an honour to the parish, and has proved itself well worth all the care and money expended upon its renovation. The principal works executed may be thus summarised:—The tower masonry has been thoroughly repaired, and the battlements renewed in Ketton stone; the bells have been rehung, and

new floors, &c., provided in the tower: two of the piers, and the bases of all those between the nave and the north aisle being crushed, the clerestory wall was shored up, and the defective masonry was renewed in hard stone upon huge masses of concrete: the roofs of the nave and north aisle were entirely renewed, and recovered with lead: a new stone porch (much needed) was added on the north side: the chancel was entirely rebuilt on the old foundation, the ancient windows and buttresses being very properly incorporated into the new work: and on the north side of the chancel a vestry, and an organ chamber—both essentials—were built. Several ancient tombs have been preserved; proper seating has been provided both in the chancel and in the other parts of the church; the ancient Norman font has been placed upon a base of a suitable character; proper paving has been laid down; a suitable and handsome reredos has been erected behind the altar table; a new pulpit, &c., of good design replaces the previous erection, and proper means for lighting and warming the church are provided. It may be added, that during the carrying out of the works two fine hagioscopes were discovered, one at the end of each aisle, to give views of the altar through the jambs of the chancel arch. The works outside the church have been carried out in an equally satisfactory manner; the ground has been lowered, and every gravestone and tomb refixed in their original positions, the turf being laid to such gradients that all rain falling runs away from the churchyard; and, more effectually to protect the building, down-right pipes have been fixed to all the roofs, and drains laid to them to carry off all rain water.

Medbourn.

The interesting church of Medbourn is about being restored. It is, in its main features, an Early English Cross Church. The chancel has lately been rebuilt at the cost of the Rector, under the architectural care of Mr. Edwin Dolby, of Abingdon. The opportunity was then taken to thoroughly restore the eastern wall of the nave. A Paper was recently read before this Society upon the Manor House in this parish, where some rather fine mural decorations were discovered. The daughter church of this parish, at

Holt,

Has likewise been under useful repair. Sir Bache Cunard has lately reroofed the chancel, and restored the walls; has reseated the whole church, and restored the handsome Jacobean pulpit.

Blaston S. Giles.

The modern chapel in this parish, erected in the year 1714, has been taken down, and a new one, of the Early English period, has been built, at the sole cost of the Rev. G. C. Fenwicke, the Rector. The new chapel consists of nave and apse, the whole being about forty-five feet in length. The seating is very good, and the general effect of the church, which is excellent, is much enriched by all the windows being filled with stained glass by Messrs. Heaton, Butler, and Bayne. Much stained glass has been placed in other churches in this neighbourhood lately: *e.g.*, at Market Harborough, Medbourn, Tur Langton, and Burton Overy, most of which was also supplied by Messrs. Heaton, Butler, and Bayne.

Claybrooke.

After being in the mason's hands for eighteen months, the Parish Church of Claybrooke was reopened for divine service on the 19th of June last. Many improvements have been made, under the guidance of Mr. G. E. Street, R.A.;

amongst them may be specially mentioned the removal of galleries on the south and west sides of the church, and the opening of the tower arch—the latter producing the usual good effect. The old roof of the nave being in a very bad state, has been replaced by a new one covered with new lead. The fittings of the chancel have been carefully restored, and the ancient low side window re-opened. A considerable quantity of ancient stained glass scattered about the church has been collected and placed in two of the windows, extra canopies (a dangerous and questionable experiment) being added to the lights. A new pulpit of Caen stone replaces the old one; and chairs take the place of the previous high backed pews.

Frolesworth.

The church of this parish, dedicated to S. Nicholas, has long been in sad want of reparation; matters have gone on until further delay has become dangerous. An architect has been called in, whose report practically means the rebuilding of nearly the whole edifice, excepting the chancel, which he also reports as "sadly in need of restoration, internally and externally." Your Committee are pleased to notice that it is not the intention of the parishioners "to modernise this ancient fabric, but to restore it as nearly as possible in harmony with the different styles of architecture now embodied in it." This will require great care; the more dilapidated a building, the greater the temptation becomes to destroy, rather than to repair, and your Committee would venture to urge upon those responsible for the proposed works at Frolesworth, to be careful that the old features of their church are not unnecessarily wiped out. They acknowledge that while the whole "has some pretensions to architectural beauty of design," the chancel especially is "indeed a fine specimen of the late Perpendicular design," for in addition to five large and very handsome windows, it contains sedilia, piscina, almonry, priest's door, what is locally called a penance stone, and the remains of a low-side window. The stone called "the penance stone," is at the entrance to the chancel in the centre of the church, and is remarkable in its appearance, being large and evidently placed there for a purpose; a similar stone formerly stood in the church of Scalford in this county, and was known by the same name. Penitents, in mediæval times, stood in shirt and breeches before the ambon on Maunday Thursday, at the time of Mass, to receive absolution, and this stone may have been used on such occasions. There is another feature in this village church which should be treated tenderly and reverentially—the recumbent effigy of Chief Baron Smith, the munificent founder of the Alms House in the parish, for the maintenance of twenty-four poor widows, members of the Church of England. The effigy is now within the altar rails of the church, and it is hoped that it will not only be carefully covered and protected during the proposed works, but that it will not be removed from its present position; it is now comparatively safe from the fear of injury, but a removal would almost inevitably entail much risk in the transit, and a more exposed situation, say at the west end of the church, would expose it to much rough usage from boys and others, and a slow but certain course of decay, and final demolition would set in.

Sileby.

A contract has been entered into (under the architectural guidance of Mr. Blomfield) for the restoration of the chancel and the side chapels of this church. As about £5,000 would be required for the restoration of the whole edifice, this first portion is commenced with the money promised, which is

something under £2,400. It will be a matter for regret if the works are stopped when this contract is concluded, as the chnrch is a fine one, and well worthy of all the care and money that can be expended upon it.

Historical Manuscripts.

In their last annual report your Committee was enabled to announce the satisfactory results of the inspection of the Records belonging to the Corporation of Leicester by Mr. Jeaffreson, on behalf of the Royal Historical Commission. It has this year to refer to another debt of gratitude incurred by all students of history to the members of the same Commission. It will be remembered that upon the occasion of the General Meeting of this Society at Lutterworth, in the summer of the year 1861, the Earl of Denbigh, amongst other valuable curiosities, exhibited four folio volumes of manuscripts, which were described in the catalogue of the temporary museum as containing letters written by, or addressed to, the members of the Feilding family, during the time of William and Basil, the two first Earls of Denbigh (2 vols.); and letters and other papers chiefly addressed to, or written by, the Earl of Denbigh during the Civil Wars. A few years after that meeting at Lutterworth, Mr. R. B. Knowles, one of the Inspectors of Manuscripts, by Lord Denbigh's permission, visited Newnham Paddox, and prepared a full report of the contents of those four volumes, which appeared in the Appendix of the Fourth Report of the Royal Commission of Historical Manuscripts, issued in 1874. Speaking of Lord Denbigh's manuscipts in that report, the commissioners said:—"The Earl of Denbigh's manuscripts form one of the most important collections that have come under the notice of the commission. Some of them have been inspected by Mr. R. B. Knowles, and it will be seen that they constitute a valuable addition to the original documents of the reigns of James I. and Charles II. Mr. Knowles' report embraces two volumes of family letters, and two of letters during the Civil Wars, chiefly addressed to Basil, second Earl of Denbigh. Amongst the writers are the Duke of Buckingham, the Countess of Buckingham, the first Countess of Denbigh, the Marquis of Hamilton, Sir Kenelm Digby, the Earl of Essex, Lords Wharton, Willoughby, and Fairfax, Sir William Walker, and several of the officers who served under Lord Denbigh in the Civil Wars, when he was commander-in-chief of the associated counties of Warwick, Worcester, Stafford, and Salop. The family letters are especially interesting, and the Earl of Denbigh has liberally permitted Mr. Knowles to make extracts from them, and from the other letters." As the report and Mr. Knowles' extracts have been published, it is not necessary to refer more particularly to them now. Since that time Mr. Knowles has been allowed to examine, and make extracts from the remainder of the literary treasures at Newnham Paddox with equally satisfactory results. The report will most probably appear in the next Blue Book issued by the Commission in the course of a few months. It will, we are told, contain extracts from a valuable collection of news-letters in French, of the time of William III., written by a correspondent in London to a merchant at the Hague, containing many details of matters unnoticed by Macaulay, and other historians, and some letters of Lord Bolingbroke's second wife, with interpolations by her husband, written during his exile.

THE TREASURER'S STATEMENT FOR 1878.

was next read as follows :—

Receipts.				Payments.			
1878.		£.	s. d.	1878.		£.	s. d.
Jan. 1.	Balance from old Account ..	39	1 2	Williamson, share of Annual Volume ..		37	14 2
Dec. 31.	Subscriptions and Arrears received during the year	108	0 6	Grant for Publishing "Transactions"		35	0 0
				Mr. Neale's "Abbey Church of S. Alban"		4	6 0
				Utting, Engraving Badge		3	0 0
				Expenses attending Annual and Public Meetings		7	5 6
				Royal Archæological Institute		1	1 0
				Mr. North's "Church Bells of Northamptonshire" ..		1	1 0
				Advertising		3	0 6
				Cheques ..		0	5 0
				Secretary's sundries for the year		1	16 1
				Dec. 31.	Balance in hand	52	12 5
		£147	1 8			£147	1 8

1879.—Jan. 1. Balance in hand, £52 12s. 5d. [Against which there are some unpaid Bills.]

January 27th, 1879,

Examined and found correct,

(Signed) THOMAS HOLYLAND,

Auditor.

The Report of the Committee and the Statement of Accounts were adopted, passed, and ordered (with the Rules as amended) to be printed in the usual way.

All the members of the Committee and the officers of the Society were re-elected for the ensuing year.

The following antiquities, &c., were exhibited :—

By the Earl of Gainsborough : Two keys belonging to Windsor Castle, *temp.* George IV.; two ornamented keys, *temp.* Charles II.; bronze key found at Campden, Gloucestershire; twenty-eight silver counters, in a silver box, found in the pocket of the Earl of Lindsey, after the battle of Edgehill, where he was killed. His grand-daughter, Lady Elizabeth Bertie, was wife of Baptiste, third Viscount of Campden. Medal I., Mauret, Saxo. Gall. Maresch, Gen. D., Curl et Sem. Medal II., gold S. George set as a brooch, "S. Georgius equitum Patronus, in tempestate securitas." Medal III., silver, "Frangimur et collectimur, trahite æquo jugo." Medal IV., silver, Duke of Cumberland, "Gul. Dux Cumb.

deliciæ Militum, Natus, 15 April, 1721, pro patre et patria, Rebel sec. 1745." Medal V, silver, Dr. Sacheverell and the Pope, "H. S. Sach, D.D., is firm to thee." One silver coin of Charles II.; six bronze coins; one copper token of Arthur Duke of Wellington, "Erin go brach," 1816. Two letters from the Privy Council to Lord Campden, as Lord Lieutenant of Rutlandshire, *temp.* Charles II.; instructions from Charles the Second (with his Majesty's autograph) to the Lord Viscount Campden; autograph of Charles I.; pardon of Sir Philip Gell from Charles I.; coloured view of Camden House, burnt down *temp.* Charles I. by the Cavaliers; ring with likeness of Mary Queen of Scots, surrounded by brilliants; coin of Queen Elizabeth found near Campden House; Bible in a very beautifully worked silk cover, representing the Sacrifice of Abraham on one side, David praying on the other, with the Psalms set to music, &c., dated 1619—1621; Buck's Bible in very beautiful condition, printed at Cambridge, 1629, with red lines ruled on each page; watercolour view of Camden House before it was burnt down; and Camden House in its present state; six photographs.

By Alderman Barfoot:—Roman objects found on premises of Messrs. Hobson, Barfoot, and Rust in excavation between the Jewry Wall and the Talbot; rim of *mortarium*, with potter's mark, NOM. Fragment of bowl of white (Salopian?) ware. The rim bears a trace of coloured ornamentation. Samian ware, three fragments. Castor ware. Base of indented vase, fragment of ditto. Upchurch ware, fragment. Two fragments of dark heavy ware. One contains shell fragments. Two fragments (feet) of Upchurch ware, apparently used in children's games.

By Mr. Robert Humberstone: a collection of Greek and Roman coins.

Mr. Thomas North, F.S.A., contributed the following

NOTES ON SOME CURIOSITIES AT BEAUMANOR PARK.

There are several curiosities preserved at Beaumanor Park which are of more than private interest.

I. The coach (with a specimen of the harness decorated with the brass plates of the Herrick crest) which was built for William Herrick, Esq., upon the occasion of his marriage with Lucy, the daughter of John Gage, Esq., of Bretley Park, Sussex, in the year 1740. The contract for the building of this coach is preserved among the family papers at Beaumanor. A copy of it was read at a meeting of this Society, held in September, 1876. I venture to repeat it here, copied from the original, in order to make these notes complete:—

"London, 8ber ye 28th 1740.

Dr Sir

I carry'd the arms Miss Gage sent to the Coach makers and the other Side is the Charge of the whole which I hope you'l like, I am sure I have done as if it had been my case, and I dare say the man will finish it as it should be, and at the time he promised . . . . .

. . . . . .

All friends here Joyn in Humble love to you and all friends, and I am

Dr Neighbour,

Yrs &c

C. Hartopp.

The Coach maker wants to know
the colour of the lining

[Addressed :—To Wm Herrick Esq. att Beau Mannor
In
Loughborough Bag
Leicestershire.]

28 Oc.

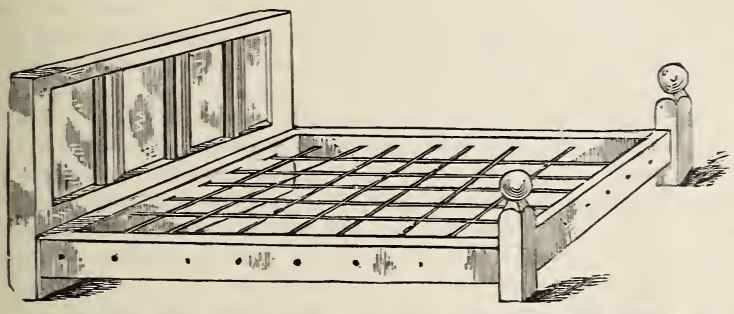
1740. An estimate of a Coach to be made for Wm Harrick Esq.
Octo : By E. Harlee

	£.	s.	d.
To a new Coach to be made with the best Seasoned Timber, the Doors to be arched, the body to be neatly run, the ends of the bottom, sides, corner pillars, and asticks round the glasses to be Neatly Carved. Colouring and varnishing the body olive colour, painting thereon a Sett of Shields hightned in gold, and a sett of arms and crests, covering the body with the best Neats leather the vallons whelted and Drove in Archess to be lined with any colour'd cloth except Scarlett, a seat Cloth ye same of the lining, a woosted triming to the inside, the seats quilted and tufts to them, 2 door glasses and Canvasis in the Doors, also a strong set of main and save braces, a Sett of Cross and Collar Braces, a neat Carriage Carved answerable to the body, and a Strong Sett of wheels, colouring the wheels bright red and olive colour, varnishing them with vermillion, gilding the Shield, and painting the crest on the hind cross bar and boxes under the inside seats, all to be complete in a workmanlike manner for Seventy three pounds ten shillings	73	10	0
To a new Sett of splin trees, a Spear barr, and splin tree, a Drage Chain and Drage Staff, and Straps and buckles	1	16	0
To a Budget to hang under the Coachman's Seat, a hammer, a pair of pincers, a Cold Chisell, 24 Clouts, 12 linspins and hurters, and 200 clout nailes	1	12	0
To 4 new Harness made with the best Neats leather, a brass plate on the edge of the housing, Crest housing plates, brass watering hooks, starrs and screw'd rings to ye head stalls Double bard bitts and a sett of Reins	12	0	0
To a large winscott Trunk to go between to the fore standard plates, handles, and a lock to it	2	2	0
To a new Cover for the Coach made with fine Barriss....	1	5	0
	£92	5	0

I may say that several other estimates were sent, but the one just read was, almost certainly, the one chosen by Mr. Herrick. The late General Dyott made, on the 26th of June, 1828, a careful admeasurement of the old coach with, as is found from a memorandum preserved at Beamanor, the following results:—

Extreme length from splinter bar to foot-board	17 feet.
Height from the bottom of the door to the level of the roof	6 feet.
Width in the interior	3 ft. 6 in.
Length in the interior	4 ft. 4 in.
Diameter of hind wheel	5 ft. 7 in.

II. Another Curiosity at Beaumanor is an ancient piece of furniture traditionally called "King Richard's Bedstead."



During the years preceding the Battle of Bosworth Field one of the principal Inns in Leicester was known as "The White Boar," in allusion to the cognizance or badge of the reigning monarch, Richard the Third. That ill-fated king, as is well known, passed through Leicester, on his way to Bosworth Field, in August, 1485. Tradition says it was in a large front chamber of that handsomely gabled inn, now known to us, unfortunately, only by drawings, that he passed the nights of Friday and Saturday, the 19th and 20th of that month. "There, too, would he keep his crown and treasures. The room below of the same extent as the chamber, would be his head quarters, where he sat to receive intelligence from his scouts, to give his orders, and to confer with his officers. . . On Sunday he left Leicester (says the Chronicler of Croyland Abbey) in the greatest pomp, wearing on his head the royal diadem. In the evening of that day he lay encamped with his army within three miles of the enemy; and about the midday of Monday his corpse, hacked to pieces and covered with blood, lay on Redmoor plain, near Bosworth."

After the battle of Bosworth Field, when the White Boar would cease to be popular, the sign of the Leicester Inn was changed to "The Blue Boar"—a name which it retained until the building was taken, and the materials sold, in the year 1836. The tra-

dition of the visit of Richard III. was always associated with the house, in which, however, an event occurred 120 years subsequently which considerably added to its notoriety. The story is graphically told from contemporary documents by our late friend, Mr. James Thompson.*

"At the commencement of the seventeenth century, the landlord of the Blue Boar was one of the best known men in Leicester. His position as 'mine host' of the chief inn in the place necessarily brought him into contact and conversation with all travellers, and with all men of distinction who visited the town in passing. He was Mayor in the year 1583 and 1598, and subsequently an Alderman. He became suddenly rich—in what way was not known: whether it was from the profits of tavern-keeping, or in some generally unknown way, does not appear. About the year 1600 he died, leaving his widow to succeed to his wealth and the management of the Blue Boar, which, as events proved, she was not destined long to enjoy.

"Early in November in the year 1604, a traveller on horseback rode up to the inn, and there took up his abode. He slept in the house three nights, and thus had time to gain the confidence of Alice Grimbold, the servant girl, to whom he talked about marriage. She, being flattered by his attentions and professions, communicated to him the fact of her mistress having a 'great store of money' in the house, and told him if he would bring a secret friend with him some night, whom she might trust, there would be 'means made to get some of the money.' The designing fellow (named Harrison) then went to Lichfield, to confide his nefarious scheme to Adam Bonus, who communicated it to another man, Edward Bradshaw, who became Harrison's confederate. The two men came to Leicester, accordingly, on the 1st of February, 1605, and lodged at the house of a townsman, removing from it to the 'Blue Boar' on Saturday, the 2nd, and sleeping there, and passing the following day at the inn. At ten o'clock on the Sunday evening, Harrison having seized the two female servants and bound them in the stable, Bradshaw treated the landlady in the same manner in the house. The two men then helped themselves to drink, and fortified themselves for the execution of the deed which followed. Their next step was to liberate Grimbold—the girl who had suggested the robbery—and, ostensibly under compulsion, they made her go with them into her mistress's parlour, where she pointed out to them three coffers—one containing linen, another legal deeds or writings, and a third several bags of gold and silver. The robbers took the greater part of these, leaving a share on the bedstead for their female accomplice.

* In an Article on *King Richard's House and Bedstead in Leicester.—The Reliquary*, vol. xii. p. 211.

Bradshaw, the most determined of the two ruffians, then murdered Mrs. Clarke—in what way is not stated in the depositions, but tradition states by strangulation. The men then went to the stables, took out their horses, loaded the pommels of their saddles with the money bags, and in the darkness of the night rode out of the town.

"Next morning the tragedy was discovered. A neighbour entered the house early to light a candle, and found Grimbold in the buttery partially secured, and unbound her. It seems that Adam Bonus had made his way to Leicester, and was in the town on Monday, the day after the murder. He was immediately apprehended and examined by the coroners and justices, and confessed to a knowledge of the meditated robbery, but asserted that he refused to take any part in the crime. The two criminals were shortly after taken into custody. Harrison seems to have escaped punishment through the intercession of powerful friends; and Bradshaw would have done so by the help of Lord Stafford, had not Chief Justice Popham interfered and prevented the attempt. On the 25th of March, 1605, Bradshaw and his female confederate, Grimbold, were tried for the capital offence before Sir Peter Warburton, Knight, when the male prisoner was sentenced to be hanged, and the female to death by burning; and the culprits suffered accordingly."

Sir Roger Twysden (who recorded the story not very correctly in his Commonplace Book, about thirty years after the event) tells us that Richard III. left behind him, at the Blue Boar Inn, when on his way to Bosworth, "a large wooden bedstead gilded in some places . . . . boarded at the bottom (as the manner was in those days), and which became a piece of standing furniture, and passed from tenant to tenant with the Inn." He then adds the following paragraph in explanation of the former landlord's sudden acquisition of wealth, and concludes with an account of the murder which need not be quoted. He says:—"In the reign of Queen Elizabeth this house was kept by one Mr. Clark, who put a bed on this bedstead, which his wife going to make hastily, and jumbling the bedstead, a piece of gold dropped out. This excited the woman's curiosity; she narrowly examined the antiquated piece of furniture, and finding it had a double bottom, took off the uppermost with a chisel, upon which she discovered the space between them filled with gold, part of it coined by Richard III., and the rest of it in earlier times.

"Mr. Clark (her husband) concealed this piece of good fortune, though, by degrees, the effects of it made it known, for he became rich from a low condition, and, in the space of a few years, Mayor of the town; and then the story of the bedstead came to be rumoured by the servants. At his death, he left his estate to his wife, who still continued to keep the inn, though she was known

to be very rich; which put some wicked persons upon engaging the maid servant to assist in robbing her . . . . "

"It is remarkable" (says Mr. Thompson) "that at this time"—that is almost immediately after the murder of Mrs. Clark, the landlady of the Blue Boar—"a relic, known as 'King Richard's bedstead,' was publicly exhibited in Leicester. It is thus mentioned in certain panegyrical verses, prefixed to Master Tom Coryate's Crudities, published in the year 1611, and entitled, 'Penny Sights and Exhibitions in the Reign of James the First:'

> "King Henry's slip-shoes, the sword of valiant Edward,
> The Coventry boares-shield and fireworks seen but to bedward,
> Drake's ship at Detford, King Richard's bed-sted in Leyster,
> The White-hall Whalebones, and silver Bason i' Chester.

"At what place in Leicester the bedstead was seen is not stated in the verses; but it was more likely to be at the Blue Boar than any other house, from the fact of King Richard having slept there."

Presuming that the bedstead mentioned by Sir Roger Twysden to be the same as that exhibited in 1611 as "King Richard's bedsted in Leyster," it is a question of antiquarian interest to enquire as to what became of it, and whether it is still in existence. Sometime during the middle of the eighteenth century a bedstead with the tradition attached to it of having been King Richard's was in the possession of a person in Redcross Street, Leicester, who sold it to Mr. Alderman Drake,* a gentleman of antiquarian tastes, who was elected Mayor in the year 1773; from him it passed, through the female line, into the hands of the Rev. Matthew Drake Babington, Rural Dean of Akeley, and it stood for some years in a room at Rothley Temple. Upon the death of that gentleman, in the year 1851, the bedstead passed into the possession of the Rev. Churchill Babington, B.D., the present Disney Professor of Archæology at Cambridge, who, writing to *The Times* newspaper on the 20th of October, 1866, says:—

"It (the bedstead) was examined by several antiquaries, among the rest by my learned friend, Mr. M. H. Bloxam of Rugby. He was decidedly of opinion that the bed, a most beautiful piece of work, was of the age of Elizabeth. Although few people know the bed better than I do, as I have many a time struck my head against its projecting carved work when first waking in the morning, yet it belongs to a class of antiquities about which I do not feel disposed to deliver an opinion *ex cathedra*. . . . . the external evidence in favour of its genuineness is decidedly strong, and with regard to the internal evidence the representation of the Holy Sepulchre in one of its compartments may be thought by some to savour of the reign of Richard III. rather than of Elizabeth.

* See Nichols, vol. i. p. 380, for an account and figure of the bedstead.

Those who consider the style of carving to be manifestly of the sixteenth and not of the fifteenth century, can, of course, enjoy their opinion, which may very probably be correct. It is certainly very specious, and, I must confess, that I incline to it. The bed, I may say in conclusion, is now in the possession of Mr. W. P. Herrick of Beaumanor Park. It was with regret that I parted with it, having then no house in which to keep so large a piece of furniture; but the regret was much diminished by knowing that it would be placed in such excellent hands as those of my friend Mr. Herrick."

The bedstead was set up by Mr. Herrick in a room specially fitted and decorated for its reception. There it remained, without any special examination, or any attempt being made to elucidate its history, until the early part of the year 1872. At that time Mr. James Thompson thoroughly examined it, and has recorded the result, with some remarks thereon, which I will quote from the article already referred to:—

"In investigating this subject it should, in the outset, be remarked that a distinction must be made between the words 'bedstead' and 'bedstock'—between the whole construction, consisting of canopy, posts, and legs, and the framework, which might be corded across, or which might be boarded over and under, so as to form a kind of large flat box, if its owner had any object in so adapting it for purposes of concealment. A very minute and close examination of the bedstead at Beaumanor, which I was courteously permitted to make by W. Perry-Herrick, Esq., on Feb. 6, this year [1872], has suggested these observations. I found that while the apparent structure of the bedstead was carved and decorated in the style prevalent in the reigns of Elizabeth and James I., like 'the Great Bed of Ware,' as described in Shaw's *Specimens of Ancient Furniture*, the concealed stock was quite otherwise. The dorser, or head-board, seems in fact to be panelled in the Jacobean style; the canopy is divided into panels, apparently of even later date; and the massive posts, swelling into bulbs, may be of the Elizabethan or Jacobean period. But the bedstock is evidently a complete and independent framework, hidden by the additions and surroundings here described. Whether it be more or less ancient than the dorser, canopy and posts, is the point for decision; that it was originally quite distinct from them, no one can doubt for a moment who contemplates its various portions and members. Its proportions (as measured by Mr. Massey, the carpenter employed by its owner) are these:— Length from outside of one post to the other, 6 feet 3 inches; width 5 feet 3 inches; depth $7\frac{1}{4}$ inches. The dorser (ordinarily concealed by the bed-clothing and hangings) on being laid bare shows four panels, divided by three stiles, peculiarly moulded. The foot-posts, hidden behind the elaborately ornamented sup-

porters of the canopy, are 1 foot 9 inches high, with round knobs at the top of each. The dorser is 2 feet 9 inches from the ground to the upper end of the rail. Altogether, were it seen apart (as it should be) the hidden bedstead would be perceived to be a much simpler, ruder, and older piece of furniture than that which meets the eye. There is one feature worthy of marked attention—the stiles between the panels are not carved as those above them are, in a quasi-classical manner, but are moulded in outlines that may have been employed in the late Perpendicular Period—in section they represent two broad fillets, each between two ogees; the whole low and flat comparatively, but distinctive."

The section is here shown; the bedstock itself is engraved on page 187.*

"Now should this structure of old oak and homely outline prove to be of pre-Reformation origin, it may indeed have been the best bedstead of the Blue Boar, when King Richard slept in one of its chambers. That this ancient 'stump bedstead' was of earlier construction than the stately fabric of which it forms a kind of concealed nucleus, seems very probable, and that the other and more ornamental portions were raised over it, in order to secure its preservation, seems to me equally probable—or why were the owners of the piece of furniture at the trouble and expense of placing so richly decorated a canopy over, and dorser behind, the very unpretending framework below? Assuredly they could have replaced it by one more sumptuous, and would have done so, had not some special motive existed for its preservation. The motive, doubtless, was that in the reign of Queen Elizabeth the proprietors of the bedstead believed it to have been slept in by King Richard the Third."

There is no need to add anything to Mr. Thompson's description and remarks excepting to say that he certainly strengthens the tradition, and adds to the strong probability of this curious bedstead at Beaumanor being the identical one upon which King Richard slept at Leicester, when on his way to Bosworth Field.

III. The next Curiosity at Beaumanor I will notice, is, like the one last described, a piece of furniture, but one very dissimilar

* I am much obliged to Mr. Ll. Jewitt, F.S.A., for permission to use these cuts.

in age and character. It is the great chair standing in the hall. It was made out of one solid oak tree which, when cut down in the Park, in the year 1690, measured 11 feet 4 inches in diameter, and so was 34 feet in circumference. The manufacture and dimensions of this singular piece of furniture are quaintly described in the following, possibly contemporaneous lines :—

The Great Chair at Beaumanor.

A Discripcōn of a late liveing Chair which did grow in the Parke at Beaumanor in the County of Leicester in the year 1690, then cut down and being beautifyed is now placed in the Hall there, as a real Wonder of the World to the Admiracōn of all that see it :—

Behold the wonder of the world, a Chair
Wth wch on earth none other can compare
A liveing chaire that many ages stood
Perhapps as ancient as since Noah's flood
Off such a Chaire you never heard before
And after this such will be seen noe more
Elese it had not been worthy to be named
Observe the forme thereof by Nature framed,
The body of the chair scarce three foot high
Six armes advancing 40 foot or nigh*
Whose intervalls were left with equal spaces
Except before, wherein the sitting place is
Eighty foot high when felled it was supposed
Three tuns of timber that the barke inclosed
Judged so by workmen on the ground who saw it
Whilst 18 horses hardly home could draw it
Full twenty hundred weight now it is finished
The workmen all the rest in chipps diminished
A rough rude peice it was in every part
Untill embellished by men of art
Soe curious now good artists may behold it
Unseen few would believe it true when told it
He that shall say 'I'le shew you such another'
I'le not believe him tho' he were my brother
Give me 5 shillings and I will be bound
To pay five hundred when the like is found
Out of the rough first William Westley squared it
Then Joseph Barradall he carved and pared it

* This must be understood by adding the six together. The exact height of the seat is 2 feet 9 inches, of the arms (including the ornamental balls) 8 feet 9 inches, width at the top of the posts 5 feet.

And Thomas Lancell he did paint and guild it*
According to the owner's mind that will'd it.
Finis.

The Herrick crest with the date "Anno Domini MDXCX" under it, and the Herrick coat of arms, under which is the motto *Virtus omnia nobilitat*, are carved upon the chair; the former on the right hand, and the latter on the left hand of the person occupying it. Upon this chair is also always suspended a garland of flowers. Nichols† tells us that, in 1608, Adrian Farnham, Esq., held freely certain lands and tenements in Woodhouse called Rusha Fields, and other lands there, paying yearly on Midsummer day one red rose garland, and a broad arrow-head, with two rose-buds, and suit of Court at Beaumanor. At the commencement of the present century "the garland, spear, and rosebuds" were regularly sent, and were always placed, according to usage, on the curious chair just described.‡ The garland of flowers now always to be seen thereon is the representative of this ancient chief rent. It is sent in the autumn of each year to Beaumanor, from Mr. Farnham the owner of Rushey Fields in the parish of Woodhouse, to the owner of Beaumanor, as, I presume, the lord of the Manor of Woodhouse. Under what tenure the fields are held I cannot say, for, although the floral chief rent is regularly sent, the owner of Rushey Fields has never, in living recollection, attended the Court of the lord of the Manor. This garland—which, it is now said, must contain three roses—is always hung upon the before-mentioned large chair in the hall at Beaumanor, and there it remains until replaced by the fresh garland of the succeeding year.

A floral chief rent is by no means an uncommon acknowledgment. The Manor of Stretton, Rutland, was held by the Seagraves of the Crown by the service of one clove gilliflower; and a similar rent was reserved in a grant made in the year 1274 by John de Burgh, of the Manor of Elmore, Gloucestershire, to Anselm de Gyse. A rose, however, was the more common service. Walter de Camhon granted lands, &c., in Leighton to Newminster Abbey for a rent of one rose on the feast of S. James; Lionel, Earl of Ulster, granted the Bailiffry of Cork to Geoffrey Stukeley by tenure of a rose to be paid on S. John Baptist Day.§ Numberless other instances might be quoted, but it will suffice to quote one more, and that an example close at hand. By a Deed of Lease dated in 1636, and preserved in the muniment room of the Corporation of Leicester, we learn that a piece of ground was sold

* It is now painted a light green with gilt mouldings.
† *Hist. Leices.*, vol. iii. p. 146. ‡ *Ibid*, p. 147.
§ *Notes and Queries*, 5th S. ix. 497, and x. 115 and 157.

in Fee Farm to James Seele and Elizabeth his wife, who were to have the same "To bee holden of our said soveraigne lord the King his heirs and successors as of his honnor of Leicester in the right of his Highnes' Dutchy of Lancaster by fealtye only in ffree and coñon soccage and not in Capite: Yielding and paying therefore yearlye unto the maior of the Burrough of Leicester for the time being one Damask rose at or uppon the feast day of Saint John the Baptist, and also Yeilding and paying all chief rents yearlye yssueinge or goinge forth of the same."

The payment of this floral rent is noticed occasionally in the Chamberlains' Accounts; for instance, under date of 1673-4, I find:

> "In Loseby Lane:
> Itm̃ of him [John Underwood] more for a peece of ground paying yearly att Midsummer a Damask Rose ..... a damask rose."

And in 1677-8 the heirs of Widow Harlow paid the same.

The rent is still receivable, and is paid to the Corporation by the owner of "the Crown and Thistle" Inn in Loseby Lane. A receipt is annually given in consequence of a small acquittance of four pence being paid, but it is some years since a rose was actually handed over.

It may be added that sometimes the easy service of a rose was clogged with curious conditions: in one instance, in a grant made in the year 1352, it was required that a white rose be rendered before sunrise at the west end of a particular toft on S. John Baptist's Day.*

IV. There is another chair of a different kind preserved at Beaumanor. It is an ancient oak one with a handsome carved back showing a shield of arms. It is said to have formerly belonged to Dr. Richard Herrick, Warden of Manchester, a son of Sir William Heyricke, Goldsmith, of London, the purchaser of Beaumanor in the year 1595.

March 31*st*, 1879.

The Rev. J. H. Hill, F.S.A., in the chair.

The following gentlemen were elected members of the Society: Mr. W. J. Bruin, and Mr. Henry Allen, both of Leicester.

The following antiquities, &c., were exhibited:—

By the Rev. Canon Pownall, F.S.A.: a beautiful series of photographs of the Forum and other antiquities at Rome (many

* *Notes and Queries*, 5th S. x. 16.

of a large size). Mr. Pownall gave an interesting historical sketch of several of the principal objects of interest. The following valuable coins were also exhibited by him: specimens of the Roman "AES," or "AS," [B.C. 385] and its divisions (from Bologna); Roman Imperial brass coins, obtained in Rome—Augustus deified, Nero, Hadrian, Faustina, and others; and fifteen denarii of the Consular series, dating from a period within the 150 years before the birth of Christ. "At that time," said Mr. Pownall, "the great families in Rome, whose members were holding offices of State, began to commemorate their own deeds, or the glories of their ancestors, and to honour their favourite gods, by placing on the public money, types, such as the effigies of some deity, or the emblems of the office of consul, augur, or ædile. These coins exhibited afford instances of this custom. Their devices may be divided into two classes; those which set before us incidents of the ancient legendary history of the Republic and Kingdom; as on these, the Dioscuri, the fate of Tarpeia, the discovery of the twins with the she-wolf by the shepherd Fostulus; in coins of the families, Memmia, Tituria, and Pompeia; and again, those which set before us names and events of the age just before the Christian era, much as the illustrated newspapers now depict events, and record the names of our own. In this latter class is to be noticed among those exhibited a coin of the Julian family, with the figure of an elephant and the word CAESAR (the Carthaginian word for an elephant) on the obverse; and on the reverse, the "Pontifical regalia," denoting the office of *Pontifex maximus*. It is a coin of Julius Cæsar, and was probably struck 47 B.C. Next to it lies a denarius of his friend Antony, one of the "legionary coins," bearing the "eagle" and two standards of his xxi. legion. These coins were purchased within a few hundred yards of the very spot on the Forum, where Antony made his funeral oration over the dead body of Cæsar. Another *denarius* interests us, not by calling up a great name, but by illustrating a passage in Roman history, of which Josephus makes mention, *Wars of the Jews*, book i., cap. viii. Plautius the quæstor, when Scaurus marched into Judæa to settle disputes between Hyrcanus and Aristobolus, secured the submission of Bocchius, the adherent of Aretas, King of Arabia. On one side of the coin you have A PLAVTIVS AED CVR, and the head of Cybele; on the other, a man kneeling, holding a camel by the bridle, with the words, BOCCHIVS IVDAEVS."

By the CHAIRMAN: two bird's eye views of Exton Park, painted by Badeslade, and engraved by Harris, with the following inscription: "This park is 13 miles round, contains above three acres of timber wood, above 68 acres of water, and above 2000 acres of land. Dedicated to the Right Honble. Baptist Earl of Gainsborough, Viscount Campden, Baron Noel, of Ridlington,

Baron Hicks, of Ilmington, and Baronet." One watercolour drawing of Campden House, burnt down by the Cavaliers in the reign of Charles I. Three photographs of Campden House in Gloucestershire. The Paper upon Campden House, owing to press of business, was deferred to a future meeting.

By Mr. Weatherhead: the following remains, all found in Leicester:—Several objects of bone, consisting of pins, spoons, counters, &c., found in different localities in the town, at the usual average depth of from nine to ten feet. One is an interesting object, which, owing to its curious shape, renders it extremely difficult to conjecture what special purpose it may have served. It was discovered in June, 1877, between High Street and Silver Street, whilst excavating for foundations for the "Royal Arcade," together with other relics of the usual Roman character, such as calcined human bones; an unusually large cinerary urn; basal and other fragmentary portions of glass; cinerary urns; Samian ware; neck and handle of a large amphora; bronze coins; other objects of bronze [the last mentioned exhibited at this Society's bi-monthly meeting, September 30th, 1878]; bone pins and spoons now exhibited. One bone object had been perforated lengthways, as well as across, the two ends being plugged by thin portions of bone about one-eighth of an inch thick. A close inspection would naturally suggest that the remaining aperture was originally furnished with a handle, and that probably of a like material; the thinner or bevelled portion bore evident traces of high polish, as if by friction. The three "counters" were discovered in 1868, when excavating in S. Nicholas Street. The five bone pins, &c., were found some years since (together with Roman pottery) within the precincts of the Borough Goal. Coupled with this find were several skull bones, and antlers of the deer tribe (some cut and sawn), examples of which were also exhibited. These objects have evidently been manufactured from these bones, as can be readily traced upon examination. This fact not only enhances the interest attached to these objects, but appears to invest them with special interest, inasmuch as it tends to prove that these and such like articles (assigned to the Roman period) were frequently manufactured from the antlers of the *cervidæ* or deer family, such as the stag or red deer (*cervus elaphus*) &c.

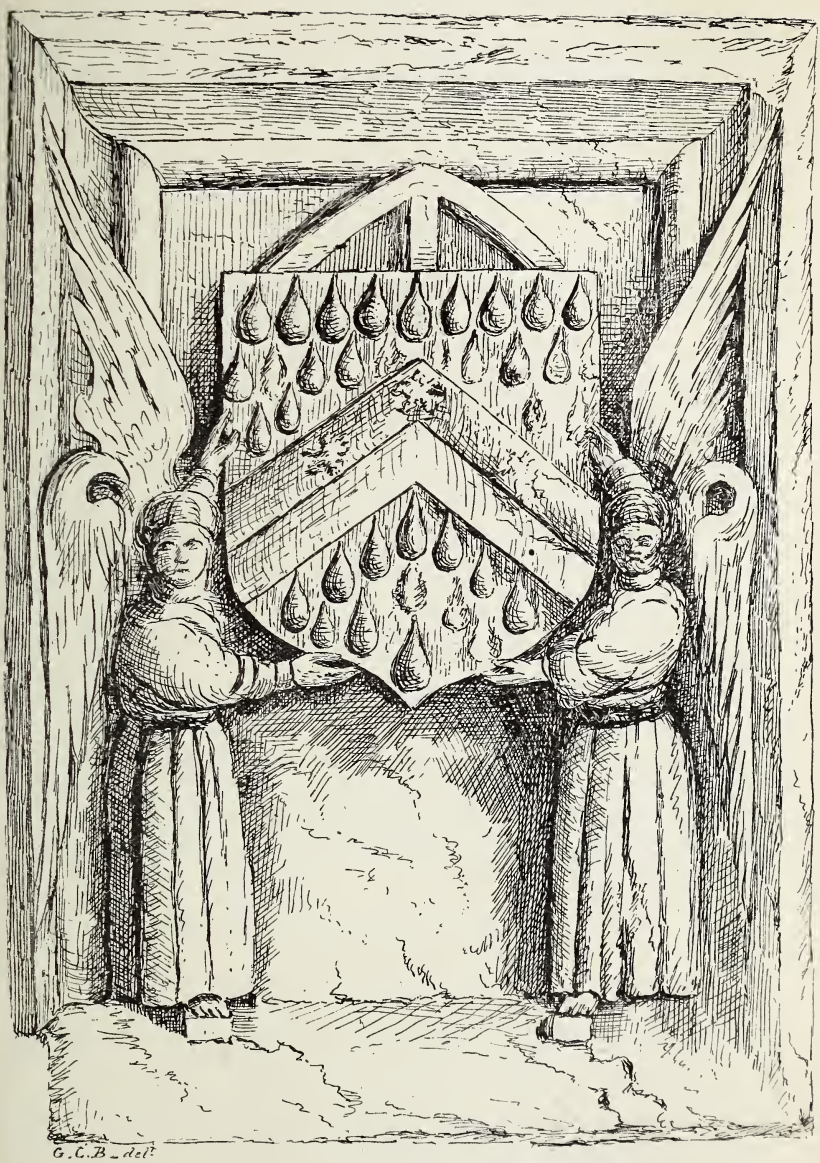
The Rev. T. Farebrother exhibited some Tesseræ found in 1853 at Burrow Hill, near Daventry, and some fragments of Roman pottery.

Major Bellairs (Hon. Sec.) read the following

NOTES ON THE WIGSTON ARMS.

These notes were originally intended as an answer to Mr. North's, read at a former meeting of this Society. I have altered them

slightly so as to be a sequel to his remarks. The question is what were the arms of William Wigston, who lived *circa* 1513, and founded the hospital in Leicester bearing his name? My argument is, that the arms sculptured on the old hospital (which sculpture is still in existence) are the proper arms of the founder, and differ from those placed upon the new buildings. The shield on the old hospital being charged with "guttée," or "gouttee," and those on the new buildings being "ermine" and "ermines;" at any rate, whatever they are, they should have been copied on the new buildings. I understand the Heralds' College have been applied to for the arms of the family, and have given them as ermine. I do not dispute for a moment that some of the same family as William Wigston (but not his descendants, for he had none) bore their arms with the field ermine, but they were not a Leicestershire family, and the earliest date given to these arms is a Herald's Visitation of 1683, nearly two centuries later than the sculptured stone. This stone, of which I give a careful drawing, here annexed, there is no doubt, represents the field of the arms as guttée: it is very carefully and boldly carved, and evidently executed by one who knew how to represent in stone armorial bearings: moreover it has never been recarved or altered as is the case with the carving of arms in front of the house in the Newarke, which not long ago, underwent an entire recutting. These arms cannot be a mistake, as "guttée" is a very rare charge, and ermine a very common one, and the latter being on our Town Arms would be well-known. William Wigston must have known his own arms, and there is no doubt that this stone was placed by himself, or by his orders, on his own hospital. In *The General Armory*, published by Burke (who belonged to the Heraldic Office), I find nine coats of arms attached to the name of Wigton, Wigston, or Wyggeston, all similar. The arms of 1683 are given to a Warwickshire family, and there is also given the arms on the old sculptured stone as follows:—"Per chev. ar. and sa. guttée counterchanged on the first a chev. of the second charged with three estoiles or." No county is mentioned to which the person or family bearing these arms belonged, and there seems to be some omission in the description, but it clearly shows "guttée counterchanged." Burke gives also for Wigston, Leicestershire, "Per chev. sa. and argent three estoiles in chief or." This last coat appears to have been the arms of William Wigston's ancestors, and he may have adopted the additions to the arms on the old hospital for difference, or probably as the arms of the hospital. Guttée is the heraldic representation of tears, and might be added to his family arms as appropriate for a hospital. Burke does not give his authority for the arms; and the matter is scarcely of sufficient importance to induce me to search further, but there are a great many other lists of arms besides those in



ARMS of WILLIAM WIGSTON

Carved in Stone - placed over the Entrance Door of the Hospital

Founded by him

1513

the College of Arms, and the fire of London seriously injured even their records. I think the earliest extant Herald's Visitation for Leicestershire and Warwickshire is dated 1563. There were none of the Wigston family in Leicestershire at that date, and I believe the family are not mentioned in that Visitation.

May 26th, 1879.

The Rev. J. H. Hill in the chair.

The following gentlemen were elected members:—The Rev. W. M. Hutton of Hungarton Vicarage, Mr. Wm. Kelly, F.S.A., Leicester, and the Rev. C. H. Wood, Leicester.

The following curiosities, &c., were exhibited:—

By Mr. John Hunt: A horn powder flask and a large horn spoon, both of the time of the Commonwealth; a copper key found in Cardington ballast-hole, near Bedford; a large old key dug up in Bishopgate Churchyard, London; a button spur from Battle Flat, Leicestershire, *temp.* James I.; a curious tooth found near the Dean's House, Llandudno, Wales.

By Major Bellairs: A copper coin size of a halfpenny, obverse head profile, facing right, hair long, legend "Glacious Dei Pax;" reverse, harp crowned, "Hebrides 1781;" an Irish farthing, very thin metal, obverse, a crown with crossed sceptres through it, legend "Caro. D. G. Mag: Brit.;" reverse, a harp crowned, "Fra: et: Hib: Rex;" small silver Edwardian coin much injured.

By Mr. F. Morley: "mdlxxi. the most excellent works of Chirurgerie, made and set foorthe by Maister John Vigo, head Chirurgien of our tyme, whereunto is added an exposition of strange terms and unknowen symples belonging to the arte. Imprinted at London by Thomas East and Henry Middleton (dwelling at London Wall by the signe of the Ship), and finished the 17th day of July."

The Chairman read the following Paper on

CAMPDEN HOUSE.

Sir Baptist Hickes purchased the manor of Campden of the family of Smith. Sir Baptist was created Viscount Campden in 4 Charles I., 1628, with remainder to the family of Noel, who have been the subsequent lords. Upon the purchase of the manor Sir Baptist built a most sumptuous mansion, with accompaniments of corresponding magnificence, which was destroyed in the civil wars by fire. From an accurate plan and elevation still extant, it appears to have been an edifice in the boldest style of building.

It consisted of four fronts, the principal towards the garden, in the centre a portico with a series of columns of the five orders, and an open corridor. The parapet was finished with pediments of a capricious taste, and the chimneys were twisted pillar, with Corinthian capitals. A very capacious dome issued from the roof, which was regularly illuminated for travellers during the night. This immense building was enriched with friezes and entablatures most profusely sculptured; it cost £29,000. in erection, and occupied, with its offices, a site of eight acres. Part of a wall, discoloured by fire, and two banqueting rooms which terminated the terrace are the remains most worthy of notice of this magnificent pile. Besides these, is the grand entrance adjoining the churchyard, composed of two low pavilions, connected by a screen, with pediments of a form which defies description. Without doubt the magnificent founder employed the most eminent architect that age afforded, but whom it is not known. *Bigland*, page 279.

From Clarendon's *History of the Civil Wars*:—Goring sent back into the west. "When Goring was thus separated from the king's army, his majesty marched to Evesham, and on his way drew out his garrison from Campden house, which had brought no other benefit to the publick, than the enriching of the licentious governor thereof, who exercised an illimited tyranny over the whole country, and took his leave of it, in wantonly burning the noble structure which he had too long inhabited, and which not many years before had cost £30,000. building. Within a few days after the king left Evesham, it was surprised by the enemy, or rather stormed and taken for want of men to defend the works, and the governor and all the little garrison made prisoners."

From *Sir Henry Slingsby's Memoirs*:—1645. "And now having all things in readiness (the Prince of Wales having gone to Bristol), the king gave orders for his march out of Oxford, upon the 7th of May, with only his life guard of horse, commanded by my Lord of Linsey and my Lord of Lichfield. He marched the first night to Woodstock, here he had my Lord Goring's horse to meet him to keep a pass and prevent Cromwell's horse from troubling our rear, and accordingly they did attempt but were betimes put to retreat. Evesham. The next day we had a rendezvous of our whole army, consisting of about 3000 foot and 4000 horses, taking supplies from several garrisons as we marched along: from hence we go to our quarters: the king to Evesham, which at that time was a garrison held for the king: the rest of the horse and foot quartered in towns thereabouts; but before we parted the Prince Rupert had given command to Colonel Bard, Governor of Cambden, to march along with his regiment, and least the enemy should make use of the house for a garrison when he had left it, being so near Evesham, the prince likewise recom-

mended it to be burnt, which I set on a light fire before we marched off. A house as my Lord Cambden says that had cost £30,000. in buildings and furniture. In our march evening by Hauckley House a garrison held for the Parliament, the king sends to give it a summons, and upon refusal commands the armies to set down before it, and presently they fell to work, and in a short time they carry their line close by the moat side (for it was moated about), and by trenches draw away the water; which the besieged perceiving, after we had made a shott or two, they called for a parley, and at last were fain to yield the house and their arms and ymselves prisoners without any loss, great either of men or time: only a gentleman of Prince Rupert's in the trench received a shott in the shoulder. After the gov. and soldiers were made prisoners, our soldiers were let in to plunder, and having taken out what they would, they set fire to the rest."

For the origin of the noble mansion of Camden and some account of the munificent founder of it, reference may be made to the Historical Introduction of a work entitled *Bibliotheca Gloucestrensis*, a work which describes the leading events of the Civil War in the County of Gloucester: *vide* page cv. and notes 309, 311 in that book. The origin of the destruction of the house was of course its occupation by the Royalists, and their apprehension of its being occupied by their adversaries. Hawksley House in Worcestershire, Croft Castle in Herefordshire, Lidney House in the Forest of Deene, and Cardigan Castle were sacrificed to the same reasons of war. Early in January, 1644-5, Prince Maurice having the command at Worcester sent Sir Henry Bard thither, who put it in a state of defence. This circumstance is thus noticed in the *Perfect Occurences*, a new book of January 23rd. "A letter was intercepted from Sir Henry Perd to Prince Maurice (who is made Major Generale of Worcestershire, Shropshire, Herefordshire, and Monmouthshire), the substance whereof was this. May it please your Highnesse Excellency, I thought good to signify to you that I am here at Camden House with my forces, which I conceive will be very advantageous towards the strengthening of this association for your Highnesse: we are taking great paines with spades, shovels, and mattocks, *planting the Gospel:* and I am no longer happy, then I may wait upon your Highnesse. Henry Perd." The News Book writer did not know how to spell his name, nevertheless he was so hated and dreaded by the Parliamentarians, that what they publish of him may be received with caution, though I believe he gave them sufficient ground for aversion. The position he occupied was in the line of their only practicable communication between London and Gloucester, by way of Warwick, and his parties were out over all the country. In the *Perfect Passages*, Saturday, April 5, 1645, is an article beginning thus—"I feare the way is something dangerous from

Warwick to Gloucester. Some of Camden's Garrison went lately to Winchcomb where they plundered them so bare, that the plundered had not a Sunday shift of clothes left them. All the cattle drove away." One of his warrants is thus given in the same news book of May 29, 1645: "The copie of Prince Maurice's Warrant, cruell and barbarous enough to the Protestant Committee, here followeth verbatim." "By virtue of an order sent to me from his Highness Prince Maurice, I command you that you immediately send for the pettie constables of your home House at Tredington, and give order for the present unpressing of 23 able souldiers for his Majesties service, to kill and slay all committee men without exception; which men are to be delivered to Lieut. Colonell Bellingham at Evesham, for his Highnesse use. And this shall be a sufficient warrant for you and your brethren. Faile not, as you will answer the carrying of muskets yourselves, and be made fight against your consciences. Henry Bard, Campden, May 10th.

To the High Constable of Tredington House."

(Independent of what might be the hard necessity of his duty as a soldier, he seems to have taken pleasure in teasing them). At last, however, according to *Corbet's Military Government of the city of Gloucester*, p. 132, the committee of both kingdoms sent an order to Massey to attempt the house, but he represented to them that it would not be done to advantage, and in fact the design was published in some of the London Mercuries before it could be put into execution. This was sufficient to convince the Royalists of the value attached to the position, and there is no doubt that when Prince Rupert gathering up his forces out of all the Royalist garrisons to increase his army previous to the battle of Naseby, stripped Campden House of its military inmates, he would be most likely to order it to be destroyed, and it was most probable that Bard was not reluctant to do it. Bard afterwards went into Worcester to Prince Maurice, and had the command of a *tertia* at Naseby.

The weekly account of news, Monday, May 12th, 1645, states: "On Saturday last, his Majesty in the evening went down by Broadway to Evesham, and Prince Rupert marched in the reare guard over Broadway hill by the light of Cambden House, which they say was then a fire."*

Looking into the confused abstract of Prince Rupert's correspondence in Warburton's memoir of that prince, there will be found at p. 516, vol. i., an account of a letter from William Duggan dated from Cambden, December 23, 1644, in which he mentions his having just taken possession of the house. At page 521 is

* If the dates of this and the former extract are correct they show that the warrant on the former page was issued on the very day of the fire, Saturday, May 10.

an abstract of another letter from William Legge to the Prince, informing him of the writer's arrival there, and describing the destitute state of the place, cattle and all manner of provisions eaten up, he rather fears a famine than an enemy, dated Camden, December 25th. Both of these were acting under Prince Rupert's orders, and these documents show the period of its occupation.

From the *Iter Carolinum* we find that the king marched on Friday, the 9th, to Evesham, on Saturday, the 10th, to Inkborough, on Sunday, the 11th, to Droitwich. If Prince Rupert marched in the rear guard, he might be a few hours behind Charles, but would not be far from his majesty. A letter from the committee of Salop to Sir William Bereton describes the king's movements as very swift. In this letter, dated 11th of May, ten at night, they tell him Campden House is quit and fired. They had received this information from a person who had watched the king's army that very day, and brought it to them at night. What is still more curious is, that there was a report on Friday, the 9th, that this fire had taken place, for Major Bridges, governor of Warwick, wrote to the Coventry committee on that day to tell them of it. "I have intelligence that the king is come to Evesham, and the rumour there is that Campden House is fired." There is some doubt as to whether the house was burnt down on the 9th or 10th, yet I think the evidence is in favour of the former day, although Bard dates from Campden, May 10th, when the house might then be destroyed.

Mr. Webb says Bard, afterwards created Lord Bellamont, always had the bad credit of burning Cambden House, and was twitted for it by the old Marquis of Worcester, who was always very impartial in his reproofs. The governor of Cambden House was a coarse daring Cavalier, something in the style of Goring as to profaneness, one, who while he was the terror of the Parliamentarians in the vale of Evesham, was not very well loved on his own side. After the fashion of some soldiers of fortune, he literally made the war his trade.

Mr. North, F.S.A., having lately seen two Deeds relating to Hoby, Leicestershire, contributed abstracts as follows:—

Ragdale Hall and Estate, containing 703 acres and 31 perches, were leased by Washington, Earl Ferrers, by Deed, dated 2nd November, 1733, to William Henton and Henry Henton of Ragdale, in consideration of £3,220 paid down, and an annual rent of £376 4s. 0d. for a term of ninety-nine years, if Henry Henton, aged twenty-eight years, George Henton, son of George Henton of Thorpe Satchville, aged fifteen years, and Samuel Henton, another son of George Henton, aged four years, or either of them should so long live.

By another Deed, dated 26th November, 1775, Sir George Robinson conveyed to George Paling of Hoby, Clothworker, a watermill, then used as a Fullingmill.

ANNUAL SUMMER MEETING.

The Annual Summer Meeting was held at Stamford in conjunction with the Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire Societies, on Wednesday and Thursday, the 28th and 29th of May, 1879, under the Presidency of the Lord Bishop of Lincoln.

Wednesday, 28th May.

The proceedings commenced at 10 a.m. with morning prayer in S. Mary's Church, after which the visitors carefully inspected the principal characteristics of the sacred edifice. Here, as elsewhere throughout the town excursion, Mr. J. Neale, F.S.A., delivered the architectural descriptions, and the Rev. C. Nevinson, in a clear and scholarly manner, supplied the historical details. Perhaps the most noticeable feature about the church is the fine Early English tower, with beautiful Decorated spire, added about the year 1300. The steeple is, in fact, termed the king of the district, and it is said that Sir Walter Scott always doffed his hat on passing it. In the body of the church there is work of the Early English, Decorated, and Perpendicular periods. S. Mary's Chapel, or the "golden choir," north of the chancel, has a rich cradle roof of timber coloured and powdered with stars, the ornamentation being performed at the cost of William Hickman, alderman of Stamford, in 1467, that is, after the sack of the town in 1461. In recesses of Decorated character in the north wall are two figures—one a knight of the time of Edward III.; and on a rich altar-tomb on the south side effigies generally considered to represent Sir David Phillips (who was attached to the house of Queen Margaret of York) and his wife. The quarterings and ornaments of the latter were examined with some minuteness. Attention was next devoted to the cellar of a house east of the chancel on S. Mary's Hill, which contains part of an Early English vaulting shaft, with a well-moulded capital. The party next proceeded, under Mr. Nevinson's guidance, to view the site of the castle on the north side of the river. The first fortification is supposed to have been erected here by the Danes in 870, after they had destroyed the monasteries of Crowland and Peterborough; in 911, no longer able to keep possession, they demolished the work lest it should be turned to account by the English. From that time until the arrival of the Normans, the fortress changed hands with the varying

fortunes of Dane and Saxon. It is known that in the reign of William the Conqueror a stone structure was raised, for Domesday Book mentions that "at the time of the survey five houses were waste on accounts of the building of the castle," and some of the Norman masonry remains to this day. During the reign of Richard III. the castle was destroyed, and the materials used in repairing the White Friary. Standing by the mill-stream an Early English postern may now be seen; and beyond it a portion of the Norman wall of the outer enclosure. The mound of the keep doubtless in existence when the Norman castle was raised, is conspicuous, and we believe that Saxon pottery, &c., have been found near. In the south-east corner of the enclosure is some fine arcading dating from the thirteenth or fourteenth century. The sites of S. Peter's Gate (dismantled 1770), Austin Friars (a religious house, founded in 1380 by Wm. Fleming, a merchant at Stamford), and the Church of S. Mary Bennewerk (burnt during the civil wars by Sir Andrew Trollope), with the tower and buttress of the time of Charles I. on the north side of S. Peter's Gate, and the fragments of Sempringham Hall on the north-east of King's Mill Lane were next examined by the visitors. Sempringham Hall, it may be noted, was founded in 1292 by Robert Luttrell for students of the Gilbertine Order. About this period there seemed a possibility of Stamford becoming a serious rival of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. When the students who had settled at Northampton retired from that town some few preferred a withdrawal to Stamford, rather than a return to the old quarters at Oxford. The erection of Sempringham Hall was followed by the establishment of other schools in 1309 by Wm. Whetley, who, like Luttrell, was an Oxford man; and in 1333 there was a large secession (caused by the disputes between northern and southern students) of masters and scholars from Oxford to Stamford, the number being augmented the succeeding year. They set up halls at Stamford, but the old Universities remonstrated, and the King ordered the return of the students on pain of confiscation of their goods by the sheriff of Lincoln. The archæologists next proceeded to All Saints' Church, which is an excellent specimen of the Early English and Perpendicular styles. The lofty tower with spire (152 ft.) is of effective design (Perpendicular), but rather suffered from comparison with that of S. Mary's, previously inspected. The rest of the church is mainly Early English with insertions of later day. There is some very fine arcading below the windows of the exterior; and in the interior the beautiful foliage of the capitals is worthy of especial mention. Mr. Neale especially alluded to the restoration in 1857; and drew attention to the brasses to the Brownes, one of whom, William, paid for the building of the steeple, the windows, and the other Perpendicular portions of the edifice, "scope for his zeal and generosity in this direction,

having been afforded by the Vandal troops, under Sir Andrew Trollope, during the Lancastrian occupation." Passing to S. John's, a small Perpendicular church, which Mr. Poole described as a model of a town church, little short of perfection; the visitors especially admired the rich oak wood screen, which Mr. Neale hoped would be speedily restored to its original position under the chancel arch. In the upper lights of the north aisle are considerable remains of very excellent stained glass; and it is said that in the beginning of the eighteenth century the church contained nearly one hundred figures in mediæval glass, all more or less mutilated. Leaving the church, the party went to Browne's Hospital, which is situated in Broad Street, and was erected in the reign of Edward VI., by William Brown, merchant, of Stamford, as "an almshouse for divers poor of each sex, as well as for chaplains to celebrate divine offices therein." Mr. Neale spoke in high terms of the ancient glass in the chapel and audit-room, representing various scriptural subjects. A recent writer says of the hospital:—"The chief interest of Browne's Hospital or Bede House has passed away with the modern rearrangement which, as at Higham Ferrers and elsewhere, has swept away the little chambers that occupied the lower story of what we may call the nave of the Hospital Chapel, substituting for them separate almshouses, doubtless greatly to the advantage of the occupants both in health and decency. The work was not badly done; no wanton mischief was perpetrated. Every fragment of old work was preserved; the plan of the cubicles was marked out in the tile pavement of what has become the ante-chapel; but the charm of antiquity has passed away, and the unique interest of the place has gone for ever." A few minutes were next devoted to an inspection of some curious antique vaulting in one of the cellars of the Red Lion Inn (opposite S. Michael's Church), and of certain capitals in a house (opposite the Conduit) in S. Paul's Street, lately occupied by Mrs. Bishop. Mr. Neale placed the date of the last-mentioned work at 1200. The examination of the remains of S. Paul's Church (apparently built in the twelfth century), now forming part of the Grammar School, Brasenose Gate (remnant of Brasenose College, destroyed in 1668), and the entrances to the Grey and White Friars—the former opposite Cherry Holtwood, and the latter forming the gateway of the Infirmary Lodge—led up to S. Leonard's Priory, which is said to have been founded by Wilfrith toward the middle of the seventh century. No part of the present fabric is, however, earlier than the eleventh century, when William the Conqueror and Carileph, Bishop of Durham restored the monastery, and gave it to the prior and convent of Durham. The building now comprises the west end of the nave with five arches of the north arcade and part of the clerestory. Mr. Neale pointed out the graduations of style as seen in the northern arcade, and in

the rich west end. The visitors wound up the morning excursion by visiting S. George's Church, originally an Early English edifice, but greatly injured by fire in the fourteenth century. It is a good instance of a Perpendicular adaptation of an Early English design. The stained glass given by its benefactor, William Burges, Garter-King-at-Arms, is, some of it, of great beauty.

At two o'clock there was a Public Luncheon in the Assembly Rooms, presided over by the Mayor of Stamford, to which about 200 ladies and gentlemen sat down.

After the usual compliments the company separated, some to join an excursion to Burghley House, with an examination of S. Martin's Church on their return, others to pay a visit to the interesting churches of Uffington and Barnack.

Those who visited Burghley were, of course, much delighted with its many attractions—its pictures, sculptures, and works of art. S. Martin's Church, Stamford, also amply repaid a visit. It is a splendid specimen of the Perpendicular style: it has been well described as "almost a faultless specimen of a town church, with a lofty, well-proportioned, and unencumbered interior, which might well be taken as a model by modern church designers." The party that visited Uffington and Barnack was much interested in the examination of the village churches, that of Barnack being undoubtedly one of the most notable examples in the country of the earlier Romanesque, as developed in England before the Norman conquest.

A PUBLIC EVENING MEETING

Was held in the Assembly Room, Stamford, at eight o'clock, when the chair was taken by the Right Rev. the Bishop of Lincoln, who, after a few opening remarks, called upon the Rev. G. A. Poole to read his Paper

FRAGMENTS OF DIOCESAN HISTORY IN THE TIME OF CHARLES I. AND CHARLES II.,

In which he described the troubles of the clergy in the Peterborough diocese during those times of civil strife.

Mr. Neale, F.S.A., followed with a carefully prepared Paper on

S. MARTIN'S AND S. MARY'S CHURCHES, STAMFORD,

In which he let the stones tell their own history. He suggested that at S. Martin's there should be a record stating where much of the very fine glass came from. Referring to the west door of S. Mary's, Mr. Neale differed with other writers, and gave reasons

for believing that the pointed arch and the semicircular one beneath it are the work of the same architect. He suggested that the tower be opened out into the church.

The Rev. C. Nevinson, premising that they had been listening to the old stones of Stamford, and would be anxious to know how they came there, proceeded to read an admirable little sketch entitled

NOTES ON THE HISTORY OF STAMFORD.

A vote of thanks to the readers of Papers having been proposed by the Right Rev. the Bishop of Nottingham, and seconded by the Mayor of Stamford, was put to the meeting by the Right Rev. the President, who with some well-chosen words closed the meeting.

Thursday, 29th May, 1879.

A Second Excursion was made by a large number of the members and friends of the Associated Societies under the guidance of the Right Rev. the Bishop of Nottingham. The following places were visited: *

Ketton.

On approaching this church one cannot fail to be struck with the admirable character of the tower and spire, which stand out as a remarkable and beautiful specimen of the period. The outline is extremely well designed and pleasing. It is a singularly graceful broach spire rising from an equally graceful tower—a steeple which has been styled the lovely Queen of the grand and majestic S. Mary's at Stamford. Unfortunately the strength of the tower and spire seems to have somewhat collapsed, and the truly beautiful run of the latter seems to be in danger of being marred, a twist near the apex being seen as we near the structure. The extraordinary lightness of the belfry windows deserves attention. With regard to the body of the fabric the church remains much as it was originally, all of it being of one date—late Transitional, *i.e.*, when the Norman style had almost died out and the Early English had begun. The west end is a most beautiful specimen of that period, the fine semicircular and pointed arches, with the rich ornamentation that is introduced, being well worthy of attention and admiration. The Bishop Suffragan cautioned the less experienced against being deceived by the mixed character of the

* The Editor avails himself of an excellent Report of this Excursion which appeared in the columns of *The Stamford Mercury.*

arch: it must be put to the very birth of the Early English period. He was told it was of the time of Bishop Hugh. The labels inside finish in the Cistercian mask. Inside, it will be seen the church is cruciform, and of great beauty and lightness and airiness. We have here lightness of architectural design carried to excess. Although the aisles are very narrow, the bays are very wide and the arches are extremely lofty. This narrowness of the aisles, it was pointed out, is characteristic of the early period. Mr. Fowler, of Louth, could not help remarking the beauty of the arcades. The clerestory was afterwards added, and the pitch of the original roof is distinctly marked outside. The windows were subsequently altered from the original design. The tower, happily, does not interfere with access to the east end of the choir, as is so often the case where central towers are met with. The triplet at the east end is modern, but it replaces very well indeed that which no doubt originally existed. At present the chancel is not finished; but it requires very little indeed to make it that which will be very desirable. The Bishop congratulated those who were interested in this parish on possessing such a beautiful gem of architectural skill and taste, and the members might also be extremely thankful to one of their own society who had done so very much indeed towards the restoration of this most beautiful church—one who was well-known throughout for his great skill and great taste not only in architecture but the arts in general. This allusion was to the Rev. F. Sutton, who was formerly curate of the parish.

North Luffenham.

The church here is approached from the main road by a well-kept path, flanked on one side by the shrubbery of the Rectory, and on the other by a wall: in the latter is an opening through which, it is supposed, the people at the Old Hall used to give doles to the poor. The church consists of nave with aisles, north porch, tower, and chancel. On nearing the structure the attention of the visitors was naturally attracted towards the tower and spire (Early English), which they could not fail to compare with that most beautiful tower and spire they had just left. It was remarkable for its excellent spire sitting so well on its tower, and also for the size of the staircase in connection with it, forming rather a very peculiar feature—a very conspicuous one. Round the summit they would see the Cistercian mask, which clearly indicated its date. The beautiful arcades of the nave and aisles are varied in character, and it was with regret that they were seen to be so much out of plumb. The responds had probably been altered, as they are later in character. The foliage of one or two of the pillar capitals is rather remarkable. There are some good specimens

of painting on the arches. The beautiful pillar at the east end of the north aisle was cut away to admit of an entrance to the roodloft. The chancel is good in many respects, but less interesting than the nave. Its windows are of the fourteenth century. One of them attracted particular attention. The head is formed of a swelling triangle with a trefoil in the centre, and it has other characteristics worthy of observation. It is said there is a similar window at Stanton S. John's, and another in the Black Forest. There are two low-side windows—one on each side of the chancel. There is some beautiful fourteenth century glass: in the three-light window are represented under canopies Mary Magdalene, S. Barbara, and S. Edward, with shields underneath; and in another window, filled with fragments, are the arms of an heiress of the Wake family who married the father of Edward the Black Prince. All these shields, we believe, were described in the *Gentleman's Magazine* of 1862. There is a double sedilia of two trefoiled ogees of open tracery under square heads, the whole thickly studded with the ball flower—an ornament which is always beautiful and acceptable. In the wall at the back of the sedilia is a brass plate to the memory of Archdeacon Johnson, founder of the Grammar Schools of Oakham and Uppingham. There is also a mural monument to one of the Digby family. There are just traces of the early roof, and in the lower part of the interior of the tower is a Norman relic showing the billet moulding. Charters relating to grants to the parish, ranging between the years 1308 and 1420, were submitted for inspection. The Hall at Luffenham, said to be of the time of James I., was examined by some of the party.

Edith Weston.

Here the visitors found a tower and spire of quite a totally different character and date. It is a late specimen of the Perpendicular period, and good of its kind; but one could not fail to at once see how ill spires sit on towers without any visible junction with the two. When we get inside the fabric, to one's great surprise, where we should expect to find a Perpendicular church corresponding with the tower and spire, we find to our great delight a nave of the same date and character as that just visited at North Luffenham. The earliest portion of the church is the chancel arch and the aisle arcading on the north side. There are several features of interest in the arches, notably the gradual development of the square abacus into a more ornamental feature before it assumed the character of the rotund specimens on the opposite side. The older portion of the church may be assigned to 1190, the south aisle arcade is probably ten or twenty years later. There is evidence of the existence of a transept forming a chantry chapel. The modern chancel was spoken of as being

exceedingly good, and inquiry was made as to the name of the architect. There are several mural monuments, chiefly to the Halford family, the oldest of which is dated 1627. One or two quaintly carved bench-ends are preserved.

Exton.

After the party had entered the church they were addressed as follows by the Bishop:—"When we first approach, in this case as in all the others, the tower and spire is by far the most conspicuous feature. And here we have an example of another tower and spire which we are very glad to examine for our own profit and pleasure to-day. We have seen two excellent specimens of broach spires covering very excellent towers, then we had one of the Perpendicular period, where the junction of the tower with the spire is concealed by a parapet. The means of junction ought to be transparent. But here at Exton we have a remarkable specimen of the junction between the spire and tower. If you will run your eye up the spire and compare its height with the tower below, I think your eye will be satisfied. You will see that the spire as a whole bears a true proportion to the tower below it. If you take in those conspicuous features connected with the spire you will begin to doubt whether these adjuncts overload it. But then we come to examine the details, and you will soon see why this effect is produced, namely, by those large turret features at the angles of the tower. These are very beautiful in themselves, but are of an exceptional character. And then again from these rises an octagonal feature which breaks very considerably into the run of the spire; and we have only a small spire proper at the top of all. It is a very beautiful and handsome spire, and I think these observations will lead you to examine it more carefully. We began to be afraid that the whole church had been rebuilt, such is the appearance externally; but when we come inside we find a most remarkable and a very beautiful parish church still remaining. There are some features here well worthy of observation. In the first place it is very excellent in cruciform, and has been arranged so as not to interfere with the sight and the sound from one end to the other. In the next place you will not fail to admire the extreme loftiness and airiness of the whole fabric. The arcades are carried by very light pillars, which are doing good service to the church, standing as upright and firm as they ever did, and are sufficient to do their work although so slender, which is a very admirable characteristic in all parish churches, as interfering as little as possible with public worship. The arcades are of the same date, although differing in character and detail. There are some features here extremely beautiful. The capital of the north-east pillar of the nave is as perfect as need be. The introduction

of masks at intervals among the foliage in capitals is a fancy of the designer—not one, perhaps, to be commended, but it is a characteristic to be seen here and in another church we have visited. The capitals of the south arcade are too 'squeezy.' The mouldings of the arches are different. However these features may have arisen, they give pleasing variety and satisfy the eye. We think [a consultation of experts had been held] that the date of the whole church must be as nearly as possible coeval. The chancel has been entirely rebuilt. But there is another characteristic of this church which will catch the eye and please the artists who are here—the pleasing effect of the old funeral banners of the family connected with the ancient church, together with the helms surmounted by the crest, and in some cases the surcoats, which were borne at funerals, in addition to the coronets, of persons who occupied the position of peers of England. They are interesting from their antiquity, and as reminiscences of state funerals in days of old. None of you must suppose that these trappings were ever worn in warfare: the helms were simply supplied by the undertakers of funerals, and were borne either on the coffin or by officers of the household of the deceased nobleman. There is here a very interesting series of monuments connected with this noble family, whose hospitality we are about to partake of, and they will be shortly explained to you by my friend on the left, who has kindly undertaken to finish that which I am myself unable to perform." The Rev. G. Knox then gave a short account of Exton and a full description of the interesting monuments, together with brief notices of the people whom they represent. There are two series of monuments—the Noels and Harringtons, and there is one to a Kelway. Upon some of them Nollekens and Grinling Gibbons were engaged.

The members of the societies then repaired to the mansion, where they were entertained at luncheon by the Earl of Gainsborough.

Empingham.

This church sadly needed a visit, if that visit is likely to be the means of leading up to a proper restoration of the fabric. After a brief stroll round the building and a hurried plying of pencil and note-book, the visitors gathered in the nave, where Bishop Trollope delivered the following impromptu remarks:—"We can scarcely approach this church without feelings of great admiration and interest when we look upon the tower and spire, different to any we have seen yet, and remarkable for its beauty. First, as to form and outline, it is extremely agreeable to the eye; then as a piece of masonry it is very perfect indeed; and next as to detail it is extremely charming. We were much struck by the cornice of the parapet, in which the ball flower appears to great advantage

indeed. It has the assumed stalk of the ball-flower in waving outline beautifully intermingled with the ball-flower itself. Then we have some beautiful arcading which is worthy of the attention of all who care for detail such as this. When we have entered this church we find much to interest us and much that is exceedingly beautiful. Here we have two arcades, which would lose none of their beauty if divested of the manifold coats of whitewash and other washes. These arcades differ: on one side there are square capitals and semicircular arches with chamfered features; on the other we have pointed arcading with circular pillars. Originally this church had no clerestory at all, but there was no doubt a roof sufficient to cover the aisles. Subsequently transepts were added, which are of the Perpendicular period. We have several specimens of lancets throughout this church, which are always agreeable in their simplicity of form. We have varied treatment of couplets of lancets. This irregularity of treatment combined with regularity is always pleasing. The position of that facade (pointing to it) is worthy of attention. The east window has an intersecting lancet, but it is not quite so agreeable. There is a baldness about the east end of the chancel which I hope may be removed before long. We should be indebted to those who have the care of this church if they could give it a little more life in order to remedy that which we now see. We have noticed the exquisite beauty of the west doorway and the beautiful ornaments connected with it; and I think I shall best expend the last minute or two that is allowed to us if I use the time, as I hope, for the benefit of this fabric. I am certain of this, that while those who are most skilled in ecclesiastical architecture and are most interested in the treatment of churches would deprecate any restoration that might interfere with the original features good of their kind, we are anxious as reasonable persons that restoration on true principles should always be adopted even with the most beautiful and ancient parish churches. If I were to ask you to give your verdict, I put it to you whether that verdict would not be, 'We are most thankful to God, and most thankful to those who originally erected this beautiful and this commodious house of prayer, but we deeply regret to see it in its present condition. In the first place, we would have it cleansed from all those impurities on the surface of this building; we are most desirous to throw down the gallery and open out the tower arch; to have the pews replaced by open benches; that the chancel should be fitted with solid carved oak fittings; and that the east end should be restored to something of its original beauty.' Let me plead that some measures may be taken for its restoration. We should be most thankful to those most interested in this parish if they would be so good as to attend to our words, and we should esteem this day most happy if it leads to the consummation of a wish so natural to ourselves as members of the Church of

England, desiring that the worship of Almighty God should be conducted in a beautiful house of prayer well adapted to the common use of all our members, from the highest peer to the lowest peasant."

Tickencote.

The great point of interest in the church here is a most magnificent chancel arch. It is really a great curiosity as well as an object of great beauty. One cannot but notice the extraordinary depth of its mouldings, six members one after another all vieing with one another in architectural and ornamental fancy. It is rather late in the Norman period. The objectionable outline is occasioned by faulty construction. The Bishop Suffragan said he was informed that at one of the restorations of the church those who were engaged thought it would be very desirable indeed if the old chancel arch could be rebuilt by themselves, and they perpetually poured water into the masonry in the hope that it would succumb and that an order would be given for its reconstruction. Happily that order was not given, and the arch has been preserved to us in its original form. The whole of the present nave is of entirely new construction. Of the ancient chancel there are some remains—the corpus; and the groining of the roof, if not ancient, has been restored as it was formerly. The wooden effigy in solid oak was by Mr. Bloxam believed to be of the time of Richard II.; the Bishop's feelings oscillated between Edward III. and Richard II. The bowl of the font is Transitional: it has intersecting arches worked on the faces.

Those of the party who were members of the societies were invited to tea at the Hall by Mr. Wingfield, and Mr. Bent, the Incumbent, similarly entertained some of the non-members.

The carriages arrived at Stamford between five and six o'clock, in time for the *table d'hote*.

THE SECOND PUBLIC EVENING MEETING

Was held in the Assembly Room, Stamford, at eight o'clock: the Right Rev. the Bishop of Nottingham in the chair.

In the room were exhibited large coloured drawings of mural decorations met with in stripping off the plaster from the walls of Friskney church, near Boston. The Chairman said the paintings which had thus been exposed to view were of the fifteenth century, and that a long series had been found under the clerestory windows of the church. Some of them were wholly unintelligible, and at present their meaning could only be guessed at; but one was a representation of the Nativity represented in a conventional manner, all the details being perfectly intelligibly given. Some of the figures were very rudely drawn, especially the hands and hair.

Another was the Virgin ascending to Heaven with the Holy Angels around her. The others could only be deciphered accurately by skilled persons. As the cost of the restoration of Friskney church had already been so heavy, it was unfair to call upon the parishioners; and he would be glad of contributions from members or friends who were interested in works of art in order that these examples might be preserved.

Two Papers were read: one by The Rev. Mackenzie E. C. Walcott, F.S.A., on

THE ARRANGEMENT OF SECULAR CATHEDRAL CLOSES;

the other by The Rev. R. A. Cayley, on the

ARTIFICIAL LIGHTING OF CHURCHES,

both of which are printed in the Volume of the Associated Societies for 1879.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the readers of papers; and the Mayor of Stamford expressed the gratitude of the inhabitants of the borough in being allowed to mingle with the members in their excursions. His Worship also remarked that he hoped the time was not distant when Southwell would have the same advantages as Truro.

A vote of thanks to the Rev. C. Nevinson, the local secretary, was heartily accorded to him for the arduous services he had rendered in promoting the success of this very successful meeting.

July 28th, 1879.

The Rev. J. H. Hill, F.S.A., in the chair.

The following new members were elected:—

William Henry Higgins, Esq., Leicester, M.B.; George Fydell Rowley, Esq., Morcott Hall, Rutland; Mrs. Dawson Rowley, Brighton; and the Rev. Andrew Trollope, rector of Carlton Curlieu, Leicestershire.

The following objects were exhibited:—

By Mr. Agar: Several photographs of churches and objects of interest, visited during the meeting of the societies at Stamford.

By Mr. Hunt: An ancient knife (early seventeenth century), with ivory handle, found at Galby on pulling down an old house: also, an impression of the great seal of James I., and two smaller seals of the Duchy of Lancaster, of James I., and Charles I. The

seals had all been affixed to documents. Mr. Hunt also exhibited a stamped almanack for the year 1735, entitled "The British Telescope," being an "Ephemeris of the Cœlestial Motions," by Edmund Weaver, London, printed by A. Parker, for the Stationers' Company. Mr. Hunt also exhibited a book of rentals in Bourne, belonging to Charles Fox, Esq., due Michaelmas, 1682, containing this memorandum: "Elizabeth Carr Trollope, married Charles Fox, Esq., uncle to the present Lord Holland, but died without issue, and this estate reverted to the Trollopes, from whom it came to George Pochin, 1761." Mr. Hunt also exhibited a deed of grant of armorial bearings to William Gente, of Norton, near Daventry, gentleman, dated 1560, signed by William Hervy, Clarencieux king-at-arms. Some discussion arose as to the appearance of the coat of arms emblazoned in the margin, in which the silver paint used to represent "argent" had become corroded or discoloured, and appeared to be blue or "azure." This, it was remarked, had often occasioned a mistake to be made in describing coats of arms, and probably it may have caused Sir Walter Scott's mistake in describing Marmion's shield, "E'en such a falcon on his shield soared sable in an *azure* field;" and it might also, it was suggested, account for the change of the sign of the Silver Boar (the badge or crest of Richard III.), to the Blue Boar at Leicester.

By Mr. Thos. North, F.S.A.: An original charter, dated at Sewstern, on Friday next after the Feast of Saints Perpetua and Felicitas, in the third year of Edward III. (1328-9), by which Geoffry de Morton, of Sewstern, granted two selions of arable land, with grass headlands lying in the fields of Sewstern, in a certain quarantine which is called Fulwell's Hill, to Thomas de Blasceton, of Sewstern, his heirs and assigns for ever. This charter (which was beautifully written) is on a scrap of parchment nine inches long by two and a half inches broad. The seal is unfortunately broken. Mr. North remarked that there are three or four enclosed fields in the parish of Sewstern, Leicestershire, still known by the name of "Fulwells," doubtless the identical property conveyed under this charter, of which the following is a full copy:—

Sciant ꝑsentes 't futʳi q'd ego Galfridus de Mortoñ de Seusterñ dedi cōcessi 't hac p'senti carta mea cōfirmaui Thoñ de Blascetoñ de Seusterñ 't hered' 't assigⁿtis suis duos seliōes t're arabil' cū Capitibz herbos' iacent' in Camp' de Seusterñ in qᵃdam qᵃrenteñ que vocatʳ Fulwellehill qᵒrs vnᵍ selio iacet int' t'ram Hugoñ Bonde ex ꝑte orient' 't t'ram Will'mi Broun ex ꝑte occid', 't abbuttat s'r pᵃtum Abb'tis 't Conuent' de Valle Dei vers' bor', et alius selio iacet int' t'ram Hugoñ Bond ex ꝑte orient' 't abbuttat sr' pᵃtū p'd'cors Abb'tis 't Conuēt' v's'bor', H'nds 't tenends p'd'cos seliōes t're cū Capit' herbos' lib'tatibz aysiamentis 't oñibz aliis ꝑtinenciis suis De Capit' d'nis feodi ꝑ s'uicia inde debita 't cōsueta p'fato Thoñ 't hered' 't assigⁿt' suis lib'e qⁱete b'n 't in pace in feodo 't hereditate inꝑpetuū ꝑ qᵃdam sūma pecūie qᵃm mⁱdedit p'manibz, Et ego d'cs Galfʳ 't hered' mei p'd'cos seliōes t're cū Capit' herbos' 't aliis suis ꝑtinenciis vt p'd'cm est p'fato Thoñ 't hered' 't assigⁿt suis cōtᵃ oñes gentes

warantizabim' inppetuũ In cui'rei testimoiũ p'senti carte sigillũ meũ apposui Hiis testibz Joh'e le Wayth de Seusterñ Rog'o Page Hugoñ Russell Galfrido Russell de ead' Will'o cl'ico 't aliis Dat' ap'd Seusterñ die ven'is p°x' p't f'm S'cars P'petue 't Felicitat' Anno regñ Reg' Edward t'cii p't cõquest' t'c'o.

[Indorsed] Carta Galf' de Mortoñ de Seusterñ de duobz selioñ t'r arabil'.

[Translation.]

Know ye all present and to come that I Geoffrey de Morton of Sewstern have given granted and by this my present charter have confirmed to Thomas de Blasceton of Sewstern and his heirs and assigns two selions of arable land with grass headlands lying in the fields of Sewstern in a certain quarentine which is called Fulwellehill whereof one selion lieth between the land of Hugh Bonde on the east side and the land of William Broun on the west side, and abutteth upon the meadow of the Abbot and Convent of Vaudey* towards the north, and the other selion lieth between the land of Hugh Bonde on the east side and abutteth upon the meadow of the aforesaid Abbot and Convent towards the north, To have and to hold the aforesaid selions of land with grass headlands liberties easements and all other their appurtenances of the chief lords of the fee by the services therefor due and accustomed to the aforesaid Thomas and his heirs and assigns freely quit well and in peace in fee and inheritance for ever for a certain sum of money which he gave to me in hand. And I the said Geoffrey and my heirs will warrant the aforesaid selions of land with grass headlands and their other appurtenances as is aforesaid to the aforesaid Thomas and his heirs and assigns against all people for ever In witness wherof to the present charter I have set my seal These being witnesses John le Wayth of Sewstern Roger Page Hugh Russell Geoffrey Russell of the same William clerk and others Given at Sewstern on Friday next after the feast of Saints Perpetua and Felicitas in the year of the reign of King Edward the Third after the conquest the third [1328-9].

[Indorsed] Charter of Geoffrey de Morton of Sewstern concerning two selions of arable land.

By Captain Whitby: A copy of a letter dated 12th March, 1797, to the then Duke of Rutland, apparently relating to the formation of the Leicestershire Yeomanry Cavalry; and also copy of a letter dated 16th May, 1798, to Mr. Thomas Farmer, of Leicester, who was then Clerk to the Lieutenancy, both from the Duke of Beaufort, the then Lord Lieutenant of this county.

By Major Bellairs: The three coins exhibited at last bi-monthly meeting, and he read the remarks of Rev. Canon Pownall, F.S.A., thereon. One of these coins is a copper coin size of a halfpenny,—Obv: head profile—facing right—hair long—legend GLACIOUS DEI PAX; Rev: harp crowned—legend HEBRIDES 1781. The Rev. Canon Pownall remarked on this coin: "I regard the curiosity which you have sent me, and I thank you for sending it, as the freak of some die-sinker's apprentice, about a hundred years ago! In George III.'s reign there were halfpence struck for Ireland in 1781 and 1782. The coin you have sent me is one of these of the date 1781, only some idle fellow has thought well to alter the lettering. If you examine it carefully, you will observe that in the grotesque legend (on the obverse) some of the letters have been altered, and some have not. Wherever an alteration

* Or Valle Dei near Bourn, Lincolnshire.

has been made in that, or in turning "Hibernia" into "Hebrides," the altered letters are countersunk a good deal (I think that is the word for it). The surface of the metal has been tooled away so as to admit an alteration in the form of the lettering. I must say when I first looked at the coin I was a little perplexed, for the king's head and the harp are undeniably correct—looking enough so to take in anybody in attempting to determine what the coin may be, that is to say, they look as genuine as they are. The little silver coin is not one of the Edwards [this was described as a small silver coin much injured of one of the Edwards], though it is of that period, and resembles their pennies on the reverse. The obverse is not very easy to make out, but I think I can do so. The coin I take to be one of the 'counterfeit sterlings' issued abroad to imitate the English money of that Edwardian age, and though not at all clear, I think you may see on the obverse something like that which appears on a sterling of John Duke of Brabant, and is supposed to represent the Castle of Limburg. I read three letters at the beginning of the legend, and from them only it is not very safe to make an ascription of the coin 'A CO.' I only say I consider 'A' to be the initial of the Prince's name, and 'CO' to be part of 'Comes.' There was an Arnold, Count of Loos, in 1280, of whose sterling I possess two, neither of which however resembles this. The Irish farthing (the other coin exhibited) is, of course, well-known. I will exhibit some day the half-farthing, which is less known, and I think really very scarce."

September 29th, 1879.

Mr. Thomas Nevinson in the chair.

After the transaction of business in Committee, Mr. F. Ordish presented the Society with a photograph of a proposed design for mural decorations in the chancel of S. Leonard's Church, Leicester.

November 24th, 1879.

Mr. Thomas Nevinson in the chair.

After the transaction of business in Committee the following curiosities, &c., were exhibited:—

By Mr. W. J. Freer: Sixteen small late Roman brass coins,

found by a navvy during some of the railway works lately proceeding in this county, but where could not be ascertained.

By the Rev. J. B. Dickson, LL.D.: A diploma of Sir Walter Scott, Bart., as a member of the Societe de Antiquaires de Normandie, dated 10th January, 1829; and also an old French passport, for Sir Walter and his daughter, and their valet and lady's maid—interesting as containing autographs of Sir Walter and Polignac.

By Mr. Agar: A Victoria crown-piece, in the Mint state; and also a badge of the Pitt Club, consisting of a beautifully executed miniature portrait (in relief) of Pitt, handsomely set in silver gilt frame, with loop for suspension.

By Captain Whitby: Two small fragments of pottery—being the bases of two jars (one with a potter's mark)—discovered in the Abbey Meadow, who also read the following account given to him by the finder:—"On looking at the working party in the Abbey Meadow, I am surprised to see but little soil on the surface, and immediately under a marley clay, then sand and gravel, then solid clay, under which lies a deposit of fine sand and black mud, and under the black mud I saw bones of animals. The horse (skull perfect), boar tusks (gnawing teeth perfect), and in the sand above I saw the skull of a man, in which, on examination, I observed that the left side of the base of the skull was much the largest, the forehead small, and over the eye holes a projecting ridge, which must have given a scowling appearance to the countenance, and another ridge at the base of the skull behind. It appeared to be that of a young man, well developed, and was of the ordinary size. Near to this skull, but eight or nine feet deeper, under the deposits named, in mud and clay, were the two pieces of pottery, which I believe to be Roman."

Major Bellairs read the following Paper:—

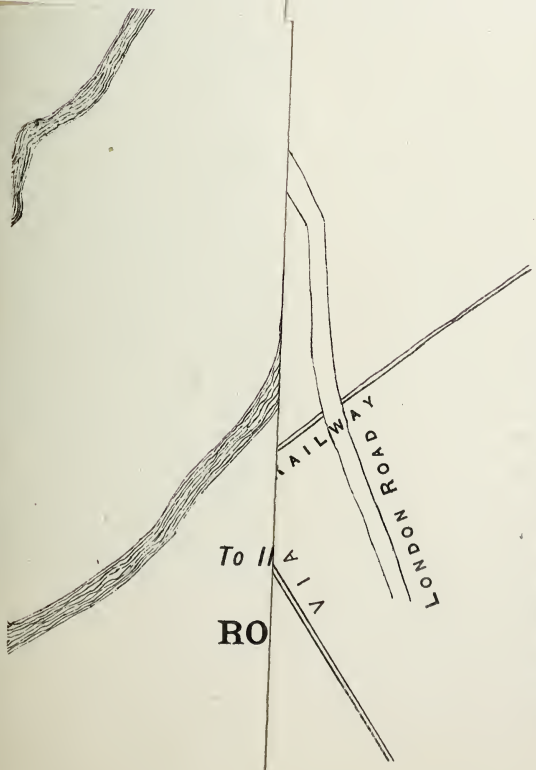
ROMAN LEICESTER: FURTHER REMARKS THEREON.

I feel great diffidence in offering this Paper to this Society, as it is not a new subject, and has been dealt with by far more learned archæologists than myself, among others by the late Mr. James Thompson, and it is also treated of in Nichols' History of this County. There are three Papers published in our Transactions relating to this subject, all by Mr. Thompson; one is entitled, *The Jewry Wall, Leicester: Observations thereon* (vol. i. p. 298); another entitled, *Roman Leicester, as illustrated by recent Discoveries* (vol. ii. p. 20); and some further remarks (vol. 3, p. 113). There has been, however, very little attention paid to this subject for some years, and as new discoveries of the Roman period are being constantly made, I hope to revive the interest formerly taken in it.

Some years ago, after a few remarks made upon the discovery of leaden coffins in Newarke Street, a suggestion was made which emanated from myself that all Roman discoveries in the town and neighbourhood should be marked on a plan to be kept by the Society; and in a note by Mr. North made to this remark in the Transactions of this Society, it appears that such a plan did exist, and was presented to the Society by the Borough Surveyor, and was in the care of Mr. Thompson. I do not know whether this Plan is in existence, but it has never been in the custody of the Society. I have made such a Plan (which I exhibit) being a rough tracing from the map of Leicester, recently made by the Borough Surveyor, of such part as I think necessary, and have marked upon it the sites of such discoveries of Roman remains as I know of. The foundations of the buildings are indicated by a red mark showing the extent of them, and those of pottery and *debris* by a red cross.

We have only one piece of Roman building now remaining above ground, "The Jewry Wall," which, as Mr. Thompson has clearly shown (though he did not originate the idea), was the west entrance gateway of the old Roman city called Ratæ. He proves this from the foundations evidently belonging to the same building continuing in a straight line so far as to show it was part of a wall extending due north and south; and he conjectures that after the Roman town had extended further westward it was used as part of a temple or other roofed building. The appearance of both sides of this ruin from drawings made by Dr. Stukeley in 1722, show that it was on the outward side a wall pierced by two entrance gates. I will take an extract from Mr. Thompson's paper. He says, "The drawing will show us what the fabric looked like in its original condition to a person approaching the city from its western or river quarter. To the legionary, for example, on his way from the south along the Fosse and the road downward from that part to 'Ratæ.' It is almost apparent the two openings are not those of a building but of a town wall. One seems intended for ingress to the station, the other for egress, and the size of the openings indicates such an intention, for they were nine feet wide and twelve feet high, wide enough and high enough for men on horseback to pass through, or for waggons to be driven through. At *Borcovicus* (Housesteads), on the wall of Hadrian, the western gateway has two portals or passages, and the outer face is level with the wall of the station as in the case before us."

I may mention that Ratæ was, it is supposed, built or founded about the time of Hadrian, from the fact of the Roman milestone in our local museum being dedicated to him. Mr. Thompson also conjectures (with great probability, amounting almost to certainty) that the Roman walls of Ratæ, and the mediæval walls of Leicester, were on the same foundations, or were closely parallel to



A. Saint Mary's Church and Castle Mount

B. Saint Nicholas' Church and the Jewry Wall

C. Saint Martin's Church and Site of Roman Temple

D. Site of Saint Peter's Church

E. All Saints' Church

F. Saint Margaret's Church

G. North Gates

H. South Gates

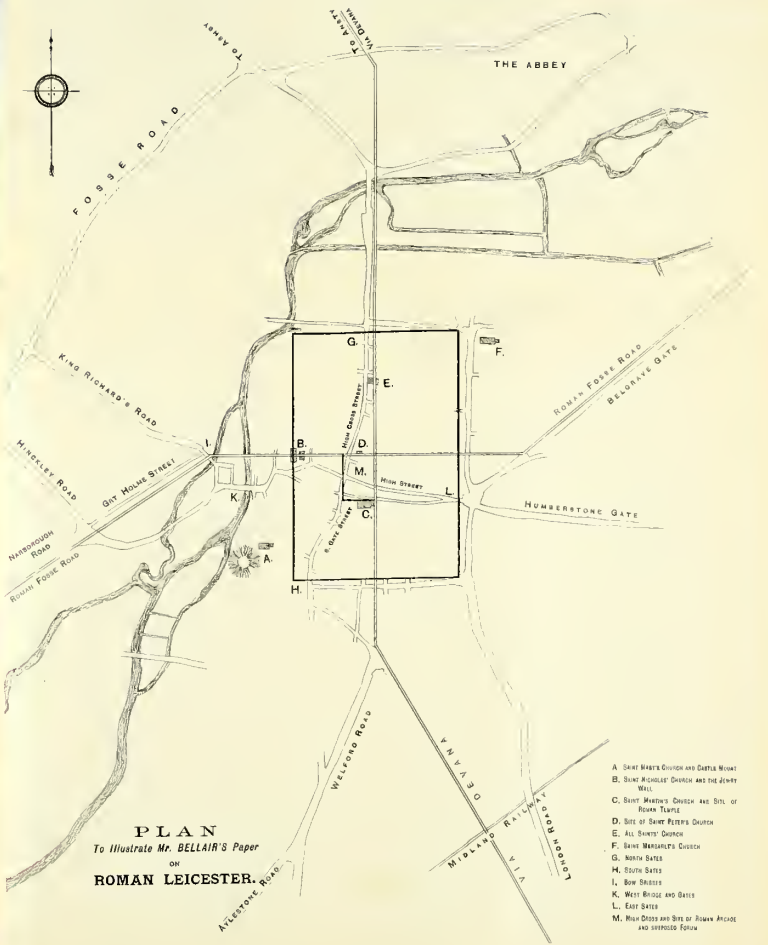
I. Bow Brioges

K. West Brioge and Gates

L. East Gates

M. High Cross and Site of Roman Arcade and supposed Forum

G. C. B., Delt.



PLAN

To Illustrate Mr. BELLAIR'S Paper

ON

ROMAN LEICESTER.

A. Saint Mary's Church and Castle Mount
B. Saint Nicholas' Church and the Jewry Wall
C. Saint Martin's Church and Site of Roman Temple
D. Site of Saint Peter's Church
E. All Saints' Church
F. Saint Margaret's Church
G. North Gates
H. South Gates
I. Bow Bridge
K. West Bridge and Gates
L. East Gates
M. High Cross and Site of Roman Arcade and supposed Forum

G. C. B., Delt

each other, excepting the west wall. The lines of the mediæval walls are very clearly pointed out by the known position of the town gates and the parish boundaries. I have drawn on my plan what would be about the position of the Roman walls, and according to this they form a parallelogram of about 800 yards by 520 yards, which would be very nearly 500 Roman paces, or half a Roman mile by 325 paces. The gates would as usual, be in the centre of each side, but they do not correspond in any instance with the mediæval gates which were situated at the places now called North, South, and East Gates, and the West Bridge; the Jewry Wall would exactly correspond with the place where the Roman West Gate would be. On drawing streets direct through the centre of this supposed Roman town, from north to south and east to west, as usual, the first thing that strikes you is that these streets do not coincide with any of the mediæval or modern streets. The reason of this would probably be that the destruction of the Roman towns was complete and thorough, and it was a long time ere they were rebuilt, and sometimes not at all. But it is very remarkable that the street from north to south would pass close by the east end of S. Martin's Church and also by All Saints' Church, and that from east to west close to the site where S. Peter's Church formerly stood, and also through S. Nicholas' Church. It is traditional that two of these churches (S. Martin and S. Nicholas) were built upon the site of Roman Temples, and the discovery of the portion of a Roman colonade, consisting of two Doric bases in situ, lying due east and west, would confirm tradition as to S. Martin's Church, and it seems very probable that a Roman Temple of Janus was placed on the site of S. Nicholas' Church, as asserted by tradition, and that the other mediæval intramural churches were also the sites of Roman Temples. Another discovery of Roman columns, in situ, was at the corner of S. Nicholas Street. Now if, as is usual, the main cross roads through a Roman town went through the Forum, forming two sides of it, and supposing that the Temple discovered at S. Martin's faced into the Forum, and that the columns in S. Nicholas Street were part of a building also facing the Forum, we obtain a rectangular central space which I conjecture was the Forum of Ratæ. I think you will find, as might be expected if this was the case, that no Roman discoveries (at least contrary to this theory) have been found in this area, but many all round it. The two streets crossing the Roman town would pass through this supposed Forum on the north and east sides (not through the centre, which would be inconvenient).

Mr. Thompson mentions a Roman wall discovered in a line from All Saints' Church to the Borough Gaol, which he considered to be the foundation of a line of buildings facing the *via principalis*, but this could never have been in the centre of the Roman town; it was probably a street parallel to the principal street, as I have

drawn it, and would enter my supposed Forum at the other or north-west corner, where the church of S. Peter formerly stood. The East Gate would be in East Bond Street, opposite Messrs. Johnson's factory, where much pottery and Roman remains have been found in what would seem to have been a Roman dust heap. The North Gate would be a little to the east of the place now called North Gates, and a road straight from thence would cross the river close to, but below, the present North Bridge. The South Gate would be in Millstone Lane, opposite Rupert Street. Mr. Thompson also mentions a foundation wall and column discovered in Blue Boar Lane, and there is the tessellated pavement discovered in Silver Street which makes it probable that these were Roman streets. Another Roman dust heap seems to have been in S. Nicholas Street, on premises belonging to Mr. Sarson.

I will now proceed to look at the approaches to Ratæ. The principal Roman road to Leicester was the Fosse Road from High Cross (*Bennones*) on the Watling Street. In Nichols' History of the County is a letter from Mr. Leman "On the Roman Roads and Stations in Leicestershire." He writes as follows of the Fosse Road, speaking as coming from the East :—

"In Leicester it joins the *Via Devana*, and both continuing through the town together, leave it by the Great Gateway still remaining, but which has, I know not for what trifling reason, been called The Temple of Janus, and passing the meadow opposite King Richard's Bridge, where its original breadth is still visible, it suddenly turns to the left (on crossing the second branch of the Soar) over the Meadow, and gaining its old bearing joins the Narborough turnpike."

This letter was apparently written before the canal was made, but after the introduction of turnpikes. The meadow alluded to as opposite King Richard's Bridge is now the Canal Wharf and Railway Station, and the other meadow where Great Holme Street now is. There formerly existed at King Richard's or Bow Bridge, beside the mediæval Bridge of five arches, a bridge of peculiarly bold construction, spanning the river by a single arch (these two bridges are distinctly marked in Speed's plan, 1610). This single arch was destroyed in 1791, but there are two drawings of it in Nichols, by which you will see the character of this structure, and I think any of us looking at these drawings will say that this arch is more like Roman than mediæval work. The name Bow was derived from the bow of this arch, and is suggestive of its Roman origin. We have the same name given to other Roman arch structures, as the Stone Bow at Lincoln. This was only a foot bridge, and is described as having had no parapets, but it may have had them formerly, or perhaps handrails of wood—it was used in the mediæval times as a footway for the monks of S. Augustine to get to their garden, and the well of S. Augustine which is now the site

of Bow Bridge Works. The river in the Roman times was probably crossed with horses and carriages by a ford, but in times of flood, to prevent passengers being delayed, or to communicate with the Roman suburb or inn at the Cherry Orchard, this bridge was constructed, and (if the branch of the river under the town then existed) the road crossed by another bridge and ascended by steps and by paths winding round right and left for horsemen and chariots to the West Gate. There are traces of another Roman road coming to Bow Bridge, (which Mr. Leman considers but I do not agree with him to be the continuation of the *Via Devana*) which, from that point went in a westerly direction, and is now represented by King Richard's Road —this road, if it served no other purpose, would lead direct to the ancient earthwork called Ratby Burrows, but would no doubt be continued beyond: it would be useful for the supply of fuel to the town from the Forest, or perhaps, coal from Bagworth. Mr. Thompson considers this to be merely a lane from what is called the Fosse Road to Ratæ. But this so-called Fosse Road is not a direct continuation of the Roman Fosse from High Cross, but branches from it, and looks to me that it would be of more use to travellers and pilgrims to and from the Abbey of Leicester, to enable them to reach the Roman Fosse Road so as to avoid going through the town and crossing the river twice, and perhaps paying toll, or for lepers to obtain shelter in the Hospital of S. Leonard, as they would not be allowed in the town; it is very unlike a Roman road, but it may have been made by the Romans for similar purposes, or when the floods blocked up the direct road to the west entrance of the town to enable the traveller to get round to the north where he might have a better chance. Another Roman road to and from Ratæ is that known as the *Via Devana*, part of which is now called the Gartree Road: this coming in the direction of the New Walk would enter Leicester by the South Gate, on which side of Leicester, it would seem from the leaden coffins and other sepulchral deposits discovered, was situated the Roman Cemetery. The *Via Devana* I contend left Leicester by the North Gate and by way of Anstey through Burton-on-Trent to Chester. The Fosse Road from High Cross proceeds through Leicester by the East Gate in a direct line through Thurmaston to a place called Round Hill, where was formerly a tumulus. There it branches to the left going to Six Hills, Newarke, and Lincoln. This change of direction was occasioned by the necessity of avoiding the river, and the marshy meadows adjoining. There was probably another road through Syston and South Croxton; and there seems to have been also another road leading northward from Ratæ, through Rothley and Barrow-on-Soar, into Derbyshire, from whence the Romans of Ratæ obtained their lead, and the millstone grit of which some of their buildings were composed—(The old milestone was of this

material). There was evidently a Roman road from Barrow, through Six Hills, and by Goadby Marwood (near which place it is still used as a road and called Lang Dyke Lane), to Croxton Kerrial. I also think there was another road from Leicester in the direction of the Uppingham Road. I have but few more remarks to make, one is, that the Roman discoveries outside the Jewry Wall are, I believe, late Roman, and were built when the country was comparatively peaceable; and perhaps it may be remarked that I have omitted to mention the Row Dykes on the Aylestone Road and the Castle Mount. The latter, though not Roman, is said by competent authorities to have been raised by the ancient Britons before the Roman occupation, and was probably a Beacon. The Row or Raw Dykes have every appearance of a Roman Camp (though not a very strong one), and perhaps was the first camp of the Romans before the building of Ratæ, or the formation of the Fosse Road. This earthwork formerly extended much farther than at present, and it is said that it was used as a battery by Prince Rupert when attacking the town; but I am encroaching on mediæval history which would make these remarks a great deal too long—the object of my Paper being merely to point out the importance of keeping an accurate plan of Roman discoveries in the town and neighbourhood, which, if done regularly, will add materially to the history of our town, and would, I think, show an interesting outline of Roman Leicester.

January 26*th*, 1880.

ANNUAL MEETING.

Mr. Thomas Nevinson in the chair.

After the usual meeting of the Committee, the Annual Meeting of Members was held, at which the following

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1879,

prepared by Mr. North, F.S.A., and adopted by the Committee, was read:—

The principal event in the Society's proceedings during the past year—the twenty-fifth of its existence—was the Annual Summer Meeting, and the Excursion connected with it. Stamford was happily chosen for a combined meeting of the Lincoln Diocesan, the Northamptonshire, and the Leicestershire Architectural and Archæological Societies. "A more suitable place could not have been selected. Not only is Stamford both historically and architecturally one of the most interesting towns in England, but its position, just on the verge of Lincolnshire, only divided from Northamptonshire and Rutland by the sluggish stream of the Welland, and within an easy distance of Leicester, marks it out as the very place for a combined meeting." Not only was the locality well chosen, but the joint Societies were equally fortunate in securing

the aid of the Rev. C. Nevinson as Local Secretary for making arrangements for the Meeting, which, it is needless to say, were as complete and satisfactory as possible. Each Society was well represented; your Society contributing two valuable Papers by two of its honorary members—The Rev. Mackenzie E. C. Walcott, F.S.A., and Mr. James Neale, F.S.A. These Papers will be printed in the volume of the *Reports and Papers of the Associated Societies* for the current year. The morning of the first day of the Meeting (Wednesday, 28th May) was devoted, after morning prayer in S. Mary's Church, to an examination of that edifice, and to an excursion to the other churches and objects of antiquarian or architectural interest in the town. That part of the programme was well carried out under the guidance of the Rev. C. Nevinson and Mr. Neale, the former gentleman dilating on the historical associations connected with each place visited, and Mr. Neale supplying all the architectural descriptions.

After a public luncheon, of which 200 members and friends partook, the party of archæologists divided into two parts, one party starting on an excursion to Burghley House, with a visit to S. Martin's Church, Stamford, on their return; the other went to see the Early Church of Barnack, and had also peeps at the churches of Uffington, Tallington, and Baynton.

The second day of the meeting was devoted to another and a longer excursion to Ketton, North Luffenham, Edith Weston, Exton, Empingham, and Tickencote. The large number of members and friends attending this excursion, had the pleasure of listening to the Bishop of Nottingham's lucid and scholarly description of the various places visited, and were much gratified by the graceful hospitality shown them by the Earl of Gainsborough (a member of this Society) at Exton Park, and by the very kindly reception given them by Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Lee Wingfield, at Tickencote, whose pleasant tea-tables were a welcome sight after the enjoyable, but somewhat fatiguing, proceedings of the day.

Public Meetings, numerously attended, were held on the evening of each day in the Assembly Rooms, Stamford, the first presided over by the Bishop of Lincoln, the second by the Bishop Suffragan of Nottingham, and excellent Papers were read by the Rev. George Ayliffe Poole, on *Fragments of Diocesan History in the times of Charles I. and Charles II.*, in which he described the troubles of the Clergy in the Diocese of Peterborough, during those years of civil strife; by Mr. James Neale, F.S.A., on *S. Martin's and S. Mary's Churches, Stamford*, in which he let the stones of those buildings tell their own story; and by the Rev. C. Nevinson, who premising that as the audience had been listening to those old stones of Stamford, they would be anxious to know how they came there, next proceeded to read an admirable little sketch entitled *Notes on the History of Stamford*. On the second evening, the Rev. Mackenzie E. C. Walcott's learned Paper on *Cathedral Precincts*, was read in that gentleman's absence, by the Rev. Canon Pownall, and was followed by a useful Paper on *The Lighting of Churches*, by the Rev. R. A. Cayley, of Scampton.

The joint Meeting at Stamford should be long remembered as a pleasant and instructive one by all present.

Your Committee recommended at the Annual Business Meeting in January last, certain alterations in several of the Rules of this Society, with the object of making their meaning more definite and distinct. The suggestions of your Committee were unanimously adopted by the Members, and the Rules, thus amended, will be printed in the next Volume of Reports and Papers.

The Papers read by the Members during the past year were—in order of date:—1. *Campden House*, by the Rev. J. H. Hill, F.S.A.; 2. *Notes on some Curiosities in Beaumanor Park*, by Mr. Thomas North, F.S.A.; 3. *The Arms of William of Wyggeston*, by Major Bellairs and Mr. North, F.S.A.; 4. *S. Martin's and S. Mary's Churches, Stamford*, by Mr. James Neale, F.S.A.;

5. *Cathedral Precincts*, by the Rev. Mackenzie E. C. Walcott, B.D., F.S.A.; 6. *Roman Leicester: being further remarks thereon, as illustrated by recent discoveries*, by Major Bellairs.

Among the most notable of the curiosities exhibited at the bi-monthly Meetings during the past year, must be mentioned the fine collection of keys, medals, coins, autograph letters, watercolour drawings, books, and photographs, shown by the Earl of Gainsborough; Roman relics found in Leicester, exhibited by Mr. Alderman Barfoot, and by Mr. Weatherhead; and a series of photographs of the Forum and of other remains of ancient Rome, accompanied by an interesting collection of Roman coins shown and explained by the Rev. Canon Pownall, F.S.A., a Member of the London Numismatic Society. Other smaller collections of antiquities, which were exhibited by various other members, tended to make the bi-monthly meetings attractive and interesting.

Your Committee wishes to express its sense of the loss all lovers of architecture in the county have sustained by the death of an early member, and for many years a Local Honorary Secretary, of this Society—Mr. Vincent Wing, of Melton Mowbray. Mr. Wing inherited from his grandfather (who was not only an architect by profession, but an architect strongly imbued with a love for his art at a time when its true principles were little understood) a great love for Gothic architecture; and that love was not allowed by him to remain a mere sentiment. He made Gothic architecture so much the study of his leisure hours that few men, even among professional architects, knew more of all its details, or entered more thoroughly into its spirit and meaning. This may be seen by a reference to a Paper read by him before this Society in 1858, entitled, *Criticisms on some Ancient Examples of Gothic Work*, and to another on *The Present Requirements of Gothic Architecture in order to a Successful Competition with Antiquity*, contributed in 1863. He was an accomplished draughtsman, as several of his existing drawings testify; few could better read the history of a Gothic building as told by itself without extraneous help; and his Papers upon matters connected with his favourite study always showed the care and industry of the antiquary, as well as the culture and extensive reading of the scholar. Mr. Wing was specially interested in the church of his native town, Melton Mowbray, upon which he contributed a Paper to this Society in 1856, justly thinking it one of the grandest of the many grand country churches scattered so freely over England. It may well be imagined, therefore, with what a zealous and critical eye he scanned every step in the works of repair and restoration carried on there during the past twenty years. That he did not agree with the manner in which some portions of the works were carried out he did not hesitate to state very distinctly in two Papers read before this Society, one on 30th September, 1867, on *The Restoration of Melton Mowbray Church*, and the second on *Church Vandalism*, read on the 27th of May, 1872. This is not the occasion to reopen the various questions raised by Mr. Wing, but there can be no doubt that the principles laid down by the writer in those Papers, as well as in one upon *The Judicious Restoration of Village Churches*, read before this Society in 1857, deserved more attention than they received. A reference to the "Transactions" of this Society will show how much indebted it was in many ways from time to time to Mr. Wing, and though he had ceased for a few years before his death to be a member, your Committee trust this brief notice of a good friend of the Society, a good antiquary, and above all, of a good man, will not be considered out of place.

Several churches in the county have been under repair, &c., during the past year. Prominently among them the following may be mentioned:—

S. George's Church, Leicester.

This church (consecrated in the year 1827) has just been greatly improved —from the plans of Mr. Blomfield—by the addition of a very fine chancel

built entirely at the expense of the Vicar. The church previously had only a recess for the holy table. The new chancel, which is very lofty, is in the Decorated style of architecture. It has an aisle on the south side, and vestries with organ chamber on the north. It has a clerestory; and an open timbered and hammer-beamed roof. The floor, which is elevated five steps above the nave, has a further ascent of four steps to the altar table. The east window of seven lights is of very large dimensions, and is filled with tracery of a rather flamboyant character. The fittings, including the screens, sedilia, and credence all of which are in stone, and the stalls, in oak, are richly carved. The floor is laid with Godwin's tiles. The chancel arch is also new, and of great height. The pews in the church have given place to open seats of pitch pine. The western gallery has been taken down and the tower arch opened.

S. Martin's Church, Leicester.

A large window of five lights in the Early Decorated style has been inserted in the east end of the great south aisle of this church. It was designed by the late Mr. R. Brandon, to whose memory it has been erected. It is a great improvement on the window it succeeds, the tracery of which had been cut away and brick work substituted.

S. Peter's Church, Leicester.

This church has been completed by the addition of a tower and spire, south porch, and a baptistery on the north side. The tower stands within the west end of the church, and opens into the nave by a lofty arch, and on its south and north sides the arches open into the porch and baptistery respectively. The tower, which is in the Decorated style, is massive and well proportioned, and is surmounted by a broach spire. The west window is filled with stained glass. This completion of the church has made it a fine and imposing structure. Mr. Street was the architect.

Ashby-de-la-Zouch Parish Church.

This church, which is shortly to be reopened, has undergone enlargement and very extensive restoration at a cost of nearly £12,000. All the galleries and pews have been removed, and additional north and south aisles built, the nave thus having now two aisles on each side. The roof of the chancel, which had an under ceiling in oak has been taken down, and an entirely new high pitched roof on the old lines substituted; the roofs of the nave and aisles have also been repaired. The chancel arch and piers have been relieved of the casing of carved oak, which, though very rich in itself, was quite out of character with the church, and the stone work has been repaired where necessary. The panelling which entirely surrounded the chancel, has also been taken down from the walls, and the sedilia and piscina brought again into view. The whole of the stonework of the nave and chancel has been thoroughly repaired, but all features of interest have been carefully preserved. The lower stage of the tower, now thrown into the church, and the west window have both been restored. The upper portion of the tower has been left as it is for the present. The body of the church has been reseated in pitch pine, the aisles laid with Minton's tiles, and the chancel fitted up with richly carved oak. A new font and very fine alabaster pulpit have also been added. The church is, for the most part, perpendicular in style. Mr. St. Aubyn has been the architect employed.

Burbage Church.

This church has been reseated, and the gallery at the west end taken down. An aisle has been erected on the north side of the chancel, and other improvements effected.

Ratby Church.

It has been very properly decided not to destroy the ancient church here, as was proposed a year ago, the parishioners being very unwilling to lose it. A subscription has been started, headed by the Patron, the Earl of Stamford, and it will, it is hoped, be carefully restored. It is an interesting structure, containing some good windows, and is well worthy of preservation.

Hugglescote Church.

The old church being inadequate to the wants of this greatly increasing parish, it was determined to build a new one on a site not far from the present building. Part of this new church, consisting of the nave, has been completed, and is now opened for divine service. The old church was built about a hundred years ago, being constructed of Forest stone. It is intended that it shall be preserved as a burial chapel.

The audited Statement of Accounts was next read as follows:

TREASURER'S STATEMENT, 1879.

Receipts.		£.	s.	d.
1879.				
Jan. 1.	Balance from old Account	52	12	5
Dec. 31	Subscriptions and Arrears received during the year	110	10	6
		£163	2	11
1880.				
Jan. 1.	Balance in hand ..	97	13	11

Payments.	£.	s.	d.
1879.			
Grant for Transactions	35	0	0
Royal Arch. Institute	1	1	0
Clarke—Printing, &c.	9	12	2
Rent, one year, 1878	5	0	0
Summer Meeting, 1878 (in full).....	1	15	6
Expenses, Stamford Meeting (in part).....	4	13	6
Advertising	5	12	1
Hall Keeper (2 years)	0	19	6
Sundries.....	1	15	3
Balance	97	13	11
	£163	2	11

Examined and found correct,

(Signed) THOMAS HOLYLAND,

Auditor.

The Report having been adopted, and the Accounts passed:

The Right Honourable the Earl of Gainsborough was elected a Patron of the Society.

The following gentlemen were elected members of the Society: The Rev. Lewis W. Wood, vicar of Dunton Bassett, Andrew B. Donaldson, Esq., Charles Stephen Robinson, Esq., Knighton, near Leicester, and Mr. John Crane, of Leicester.

Besides the *ex officio* members the following gentlemen were appointed members of the Committee for the ensuing year, namely:—Mr. Thos. Agar, the Rev. W. C. Belgrave, the Rev.

Canon Broughton, the Rev. Canon Burfield, Mr. J. Bull, the Rev. Dr. Dickson, the Rev. J. H. Hill, F.S.A., Mr. John Hunt, Mr. Thos. Ingram, Colonel Knight, the Rev. W. H. Marriott, the Rev. W. B. Moore, Mr. F. Morley, Mr. F. T. Mott, Mr. G. C. Neale, Mr. T. Nevinson, Mr. J. W. Wartnaby, Captain Whitby, the Rev. Lewis W. Wood.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Mayor for the use of the Town Hall Library, to the Press for reporting the Society's proceedings, and to the Committee and Officers of the Society—who were re-elected—for their services during the past year.

The Rev. Canon Broughton called attention to a report that the Trinity Hospital was threatened with destruction.

Mr. Councillor Holyland explained that there had been some talk about it in the Town Council, but nothing had been done.

The following articles were then exhibited:—

By Captain Whitby: Part of a stag's horn, found in the Abbey Meadow, with a cut on one side of it.

By Mr. Agar: Part of the back-bone of a deer, found in Soar Lane.

By the Rev. C. H. Wood, three silver articles—sugar tongs and two long-handled spoons pointed at the end of the handle—one shovel-shaped in the bowl and the other pierced. Also two silver candlesticks, formerly belonging to the Leicester Corporation, bearing the "Britannia" hall mark, indicating as the exhibitor explained the highest standard of silver, *i.e.* 11 oz. 10 dwt. of pure silver to 10 dwt. of alloy, instead of being 11·2 of pure silver and 18 dwt. alloy, which is the ordinary standard. The "Britannia silver," was so called from the little figure of "Britannia," like that on the copper coinage stamped on the plate, and is found between 1697, and 1721, or 1723. The alphabet in use, to denote the year, is the "Court hand." The letter on these candlesticks gives the date 1706-7.

By the Rev. Canon Pownall, F.S.A.: A specimen of Printing of the fifteenth century, which Mr. Pownall explained by saying that this book, though not to be classed with the earliest, preceded those which were printed in Roman character. By its imitation of the manuscript in type, and in the coloured initial letters, its position among printed books is defined. The outer sheet is of vellum, and the heading reads, in old English characters, "Expositio beati Gregorii pape super Ezechielem in omelias." Towards the end, just before a table of contents, we find—

"homeliarum beati Gregorii pape
"Sup Ezechielē liber secundus:
"Finit feliciter: Anno dni MCCCCXCVI.

The press whence it issued is not named, but probably it was Rome. This book has further claim on our attention, because its

author was a Bishop of Rome to whom the English Church in a high degree stands indebted. His name, with that of S. Alban and the old British Saints, has accordingly been preserved in the Kalendar prefixed to our Book of Common Prayer, and is found under March 14th. To his care in preserving the more ancient collects (see Canon Bright's book), we owe much of great value in the Prayer Book. But more than this, it was the author of this book who sent us Augustine, the first occupant of the See of Canterbury, 596, A.D. Pope Gregory the Great left behind him many learned works which are still extant. A splendid edition of them was published in Paris (1705) in four volumes folio (Wheatley, Mosheim).

Canon Pownall also exhibited a Leicestershire tradesman's token for a halfpenny, of the seventeenth century:—

Obv. ROBERT BASS, 1668. AT [A hart standing].
Rev. MARKETT HARBOROVGH.
HIS HALF PENY.

Heart-shaped. This token is published in Mr. Boyne's *Tokens of the seventeenth century*. No. 68, p. 160. Also four coins of the Leicester Mint. Nearly three hundred silver pennies of William Rufus (1087-1100) were found during the erection of new Board Schools at Tamworth, in 1877; of them sixteen were of the Mint at Leicester, struck by moneyers whose names variously spelled, are Lifwine, Lific, Senolf, Œlfwine, Œlfried. In type there were two sorts, 244 and 246 on plate XIX. of Hawkins' *Silver Coins of England*. The two exhibited, on their reverses read thus—

(244) SENOLF ON LECSTR
(246) LIFIC ON LEICES

Silver penny of Harold II., killed at Hastings, 1066—

Obv. HAROLD REX ANG
Rev. D(th)RONT ON LEGE
(contracted form of LEIGCEASTER)

Silver penny of Æthelstan, 925-941—

Obv. EDELSTAN REX TO BR
(*totius Britanniæ*)
Rev. MELDOMEN MO LEGC.
[MO are the initial letters of the word *Monetarius*.)

There are no coins of the Leicester Mint earlier than Ethelstan's; and all the coins of this mint are excessively rare.

By Mr. Wm. J. Freer: A Roman Silver "Consular" or "Family" coin, struck in the first century B.C. *Fabia.* Obv: C. ANNI T.F.T.N PRO COS. EX SC., diademed Head of female, called "Juno *Moneta,*" from the "balance" at the side; there is also a "caduceus" in the nape of the neck. Rev: A winged "victory" in a quadriga, holding a palm branch; in the exergue, the letters Q. L FABI LF HISP. Lucius Fabius was quæstor of the pro consul Annius, in Spain, whither he was sent by Sulla, B.C. 83.

The Rev. Canon Pownall, F.S.A., contributed a very able and interesting Paper, entitled:—

SOME RECORDS OF SOUTH KILWORTH.

Chiefly taken from its Registers,

which was a valuable addition to the topography of the parish of which the author is the Rector. The Paper, which will be printed in the Volume of the Associated Societies, was an account of the parish just named, and in writing it the Canon used the word "Registers" in a wider sense than that which only signifies the registry of the names of the baptized and buried, for everything that could light up the past history of the parish was called upon to contribute its share—"the inscription on a tombstone—even the airy registration of village tradition had not been overlooked." The Paper was, therefore, a "Sketch of a village, on its ecclesiastical side, drawn from materials produced on the spot, before village life became restless; when the village folk were stayers at home, living and dying where they grew up, like the trees in their own hedge-rows."

March 29th, 1880.

Mr. John Hunt in the chair.

The following articles were exhibited:—

By the Rev. C. H. Wood: Some good specimens of Plate of the reign of Queen Anne consisting of an elegant shaped octagonal large-sized castor for sugar or salt, of the date of 1723-4, richly ornamented with roses, sunflowers, and foliated ornament in *repoussé;* a rat-tailed silver table spoon of the same date, and other spoons of rather a later date.

By the Chairman: An ancient sword hilt, &c.

The Rev. W. G. Dimock Fletcher, contributed, through Mr. North, the following Paper on

TWO LEICESTERSHIRE PARISH REGISTERS.

(Shackerstone and Somerby.)

Two volumes of old Leicestershire Parish Registers have found their way into our great national libraries, those namely of Shackerstone and Somerby. Having examined them carefully, I will say a few words about each.

The Register of Shackerstone extends from the year 1558 to 1630, and is preserved in the Bodleian Library at Oxford (*Gough MSS., Leicester, No.* 2). It was purchased from a gentleman at Beverley, in Yorkshire, about March, 1878; but how it found its way into Yorkshire does not appear. It must have been away from its proper place a considerable time, for Nichols, in his Sparkenhoe Hundred, p. 913, published in 1811, tells us, "The Register begins in 1630." Since 1811 some other volumes must have been lost, for in the Population Abstract Return of 1831, the Shackerstone Register is said to commence in 1779. I am informed that, before the Bodleian Library purchased this old Register, it was offered to the authorities at Shackerstone, but was *declined by them*!

The Register is neatly written on fourteen leaves of parchment, about 18 inches by 6, and is in a fair state of preservation, and for the most part legible. All the entries are in English, and there are none of remarkable events, &c. The first page, containing Baptisms from 1558 to 1564, is quite illegible; over it is written in a modern hand :—

"Shakerstone Com̄. Leicester. Ancient Parish Register of Marriages, Baptisms and Burials."

The earliest *legible* Baptismal entry is the following :—

1564

"John Salysbury was christened the xxix day of September."

After the 1569 Christenings come the Marriages from 1560 to 1569, between which years there were 26 marriages.

The earliest entry is :—

"The yeare of our Lord God 1560."

"Thomas Ball & Elizabeth Bacon.....xxxth of November."

Then follow the burials to 1570, the earliest entry being :—

"Buryinges Anno Dn̄e 1558.

"Elizabeth Wilcoxe was buried the xxiijth day of Aprill."

The following are statistics showing the number of Baptisms, &c.

	Baptisms.	Marriages.	Burials.
1558.	.....	.....	27
1559.	.....	.....	9
1560.	.....	1	4
1561.	.....	4	3
1562.	.....	2	5
1563.	.....	2	5
1564.	.....	5	4
1565.	12	2	3
1566.	12	2	6
1567.	12	4	6
1568.	13	2	0
1569.	7	2	4
1570.	8	0	6

The entries from 1558 to 1570 are all written by one person, so perhaps this was the copy of an earlier Register. After 1570 the Baptisms, Marriages, and Burials are not separated, but are all entered in proper chronological order.

Amongst the names which occur are Kitchen, Langley, Deaken, Deacon, Bacon, Salisbury, Sarson, Storer, Wheatley, Roe, Jebbit, Jakes, Bennett, Bowne, Plant, Mosley, Stretton, Yate, Walplat, Wilcox, Orton, fflamson, Biddle, Gisborne, &c.

This old Register supplies the names of four Vicars of Shackerstone not mentioned by Nichols, who gives us :—

"John Bolton, 1534.
"John Hodges, M.A. July 10, 1630."

From the Register however I thus supplement Nichols' list :—

John Bolton, buried 13 June 1558.
John Choyse, buried 31 December 1570.
Julius Watson, signs as Vicar in 1579, and each subsequent year to 1585.
John More, signs as Vicar in 1599; buried 2 November 1628.
Wiłłm ffletcher (?) signs as Vicar in 1628.
John Hodges, M.A. of Exeter College, Oxford, was inducted into the Vicarage of Shackerstone 10 July 1630.

The Register also supplies during a few years the names of the Churchwardens of Shackerstone :—

1579. Walter Bowne and John flamston.
1580. Robert Orton and Richard Orton.

1581. Henry Storar and Richard Orton.
1582. Wiłł Sarson and Robert Barwełł.
1583. Robert Greene and Wiłł Gisbowrn.
1584. Robert Grinne and Wiłłm Gisborne.
1585. John Storer and Rich. Bacon.
1599. Thomas Rowe and John Storer.
1610. Williā Sarson and Thomas Roe.
1611. John Orton and Thomas fflanson.
1626. Georg Berwell and John Orton.
1627. John Orton and Henry flanson.
1628. William Orton and J^{no} Plant.
1630. Nathaniel Wallplate and John Deacon.

I append a few extracts, relating to the families of the Vicars, Lords of the Manor, and Freeholders, &c.

"1558. John Bolton Vycar was buried the xiijth day of June.
"1558. Anne Barfford gent. was buried the vjth of September.
"1558. Robert Barfford gent. was buried the xvjth of October.
"1558. Sir Robert Shrowesbury was the xxxth of January.
"1560. Francis Johnson gent. was buryed the xxixth of May.
"1561. John Bolton &.....was maried the.....
"1562. Katherine Jáks gent was buried the vjth of December.
"1564. Dorothe fflamson was Christened the xij day of November.
"1564. John Wilcox & Alis Hall was Maried the xxijth of November.
"1566. Mary Bolton was Christened the 23th of March.
"1567. ffillius ignoti patris was buried the iiijth of Aprill.
"1568. Wiłłm Pickering & Joane Greene were maried the .....
"1568. William Bolton was Christened the xvj (?) of July.
o vicar
"1570. John Chise was buried the last of December.

[The same hand which added "vicar" has also appended these entries:—

"John Bolton, Vicar, 1530, buried ye 13th of June 1558:

"John Choyse Vicar, Sepult ye last of December 1570:"]

"1571. Dorothe Bolton daughter of John Boulton christened Januar' viijth.

"1573. Raph Boulton buried June vijth.

"1575. Thomas the son of Thomas Moore baptized 3 of decembr.

"1579. John Greene was christened the xviijth of October.

"1581. Mother Gisburne of Oddeston was buried the first of July.

"1581. Dorothe Green was baptized the viijth of October.

"1582. Dorothie Wasson was baptized the 22th of October.

"1583. Thomas Greene was baptized the xxij of December.

"1584. Thomas Greene was buried the xxiiijth of January.

"1585. Judeth Watson was baptized the first of May.

"1585. Jeese Greene was baptized 14 day of Julye.

"1591. Dorothy Berford and the wiffe of Arthur Berford gent. were buried the second daye of decembr.

"1592. Robert Greene and Jayse Langford were maried January xiiijth.

"1597. Joyse Greene Buried xv [day] of Januarie.

["1601. Extw et āll 23o Janij 1601. W: Fynoppe."]

"1602. Robert Grenne was Buried xvj May.

"1603. William Grenne was Baptized x Aprill.

"1603. Sammuell More was buried 22 July.

"1604. Samuell More was baptized 14 June.

"1606. Thomas Greene was Baptized 24 March.

"1607. Mr Mychaell Asleie and Ms Dorothy Bamsore were maried iij of October.

"1608. Robart the sonne of Wiliā Greene was Baptized xj december.

"1608. Susanna the daughter of John More was Baptized xxix January.

"1611. Isabell the daughter of Thomas fflanson Baptized 2 June.

"1619. Arthur More and ffrances Sarson was maried 10 of december.

"1620. Thomas the sonne of Arthur More was Baptized the 4 february.

"1623. Martha More daughter of Arthur More was bapt the 6th of April.

"1623. Sara More was buried 18 of ffebruary.

"1625. Anne the daughter of Thomas Greene was Baptized the 12 June.

"1626. Robeart Bonnd and Anna Halle were married 12 June.

"1626. Elizabeth the daughter of Thomas Greene Baptized 24 August.

"1627. Suanna the daughter Thomas Greene was Baptized 15 of September.

"1627. John the sonne of Arthur More was Baptized 9 March.

"1628. John Moore vicar was buried the 2d of November."

"A Register of the Christenings Marriages & Burialls for the year of our Lord God 1630 in which yeare of our Lord God I John Hodges Mr of Arts of Exeter Colledge in Oxforde was inducted into the Vicarage of Shackerstone upon the 10th of July."

"Nathaniel Wallplate
"John Deacon } Churchwardens."

"Susanna the daughter of Mr John Hodgetts Viccar was baptized the 6 of Decemb. 1630."

"1630. Elizabeth Deeping was buried the 10 of ffebruary."

The last entry.

The Register of Somerby, which extends from 1601 to 1715, is preserved in the British Museum (*Add MSS.*, 24, 802). It was purchased in April, 1862, from C. Devon, Esq., but how it came into his possession does not appear. Nichols, in his Framland Hundred, makes no mention of the Somerby Registers. The Parish Register Abstract of 1831 states that they commence in 1751. The volume contains only thirteen pages, many of the

entries being in Latin. The eighteenth century entries are in many cases written over and amongst the seventeenth century entries, the book not having been well kept. The Register is by no means complete; it contains entries only for the years 1601 to 1603, 1627, 1631 to 1640, 1643, 1712 to 1715, several of these being quite illegible.

On the first page is this:—

> "A Certificate of the Christenings, mariages, and burials "in Somerby in the Denery of frambland for the year "1712 untill lady Day 1713."

The second page contains the following memoranda:—

> "Memorandum that the Teth Milke of all the cowes within the Towne & feilds of Somerby is Due to the Vicar of Somerby Everv Ninth & Every tenth Morninge from the Twelfth Day of May unto the Tenth Day of November the Twelte Day of May att nighte is the firste meale & the Tenth Day of November is the last meale in the morninge. Beinge in all nineteene nightes and nineteene morninges, Tugether Thirtie eighte meales in all.
>
> Josephus Robertus clericus.
> Rec: Somerby Teighis
> ideem Amen.
>
>
>
> memorand'
> paide from Burrow to the vicaridg of Somerby Thirteen: pound: yearely Three: pound & five shillings every quarter viz. midsummer michaelmas st Thomas & ye Annunciation: viz. paid by

	£	s	d	
Mr Edward Chesseldine	1	1	10 ob.	mulgoes [?] land.
Mr Francs Petcher	0	13	1 ob.	
Mr Charles Medcalfe	1	5	6	
Will: Greene	0	4	6	
Totall sum	3	5	0	

> besides a close containing foure Acre in Burrow feild: Belonging to ye vicaridg: of Somerby:
> George Roberts clericus de Somerby
> Testis idem July ye 9th 1683."

Nichols does not mention George Roberts as Vicar of Somerby; but he gives these as Vicars:—

Leonard Lamb, 1633.
Thomas Burde, April 6, 1639, sequestered.
Daniel Trigg, 1647.
Edward Trigg, 1649.
Henry Burrough, Nov. 20, 1669.
Francis Owen, May 21, 1683.
Gregory Hewson, Feb. 24, 1717-18.

The following entries relate to the principal families in Somerby, the Lords of the Manor, Patrons, Clergy, Freeholders, &c.

"1601. Isaacke Greene a son of Henery Greene and his wife baptised December 26 Day.

"1602. Leonarde Greene and An Duckworthe were mariede the 27 of August.

"1602. William Greene was baptised: 15: October.

"Matthew Knappe son of francis Knappe and Annie his wife Baptized february 24th Day: 1603 of Burrow.

"1631. Thomas Green son of Will: Green was baptized Sept. 18.

"1631. Matthew Knap son of Mathew baptized Octob. 18, of Burrow.

"1631. Thomas Orson of Osbornly in Lincolnshire & Eliz: Askew were marryed Jan. 19.

"1632. Prudence Lamb daughter of Lyonell Lamb was baptized Novemb. 1.

"1632. George Trigg son of Will: Trigg was baptized May 28, 1632.

"1633. Thomas Green son of Leonard Green was buryed Octob. 21.

"1633. Ann Green wife to Hen. Green was buryed Novemb. 23.

"1634. Robt. Lamb son of Lionell & Francis Lamb was buryed Sept. 18.

"Lionell son of Lionell & Francis Lambe was baptized Decemb. 10, 1634.

"1634. Margaret daughter of Georg & Eliz: Robts was baptized March 25.

"1635. Matrimonium contraxerunt Jōes Inkley & Katerina Greene, Junij 27.

"1635. Anna filia Willielmi et Annæ Greene baptizata fuit Junij 29.

"1635. Anna Roberts vidua, & St: John Barton filius Gulielmi et Katherinæ Barton sepeliebantur Martij 12°.

"1636. Maria filia Elizab: et Isaaki Greene baptizabatur Augusti 27° et sepeliebatur.

"1636. Elizabetha filia Janæ Greene viduæ virgo 20 annorū et Géorgius Trig filius Thomæ Trig candelarij 24 annorū matrimoniū contraxerunt Octob. 11. the banns thrice.

"1636. Emē filia Franciscæ et Lionelli Lambe Clerici baptizabatur Nov. 24.

"Memorandū that Rebeeca the daughter of Thomas Mulshoe and Elizabethe of Burrough in the pīsh of Somerbie Esquire, was baptized at Burrough the xxjth day of Julij 1639 by consent of Tho: Brode Vicar of Somerbie at ye entreatie of the said Mr Mulshoe; As also that the said Mrs Mulshoe was churched at Burrough the xxth daie of August following by the same consent and entreaty as aforesaid onlie being verie weak & sicklie & not able to goe to ye church She was churched at her owne house by me.

Tho: Brode Vicar."

"1640. Thomas son of William Greene yeoman and Ann his wife buried Maij 2do.

"1643. George Roberts son of Thomas Roberts & Isabell his wife borne August 25 Baptized Auguste the 29th 1643.

"1712. Ann the daughter of Mr. Willcox Green and of Ann his wife was baptized July ye 2 day.

"1713. Mary the daughter of Mr. Wilkox Green and of Ann his wife was baptized October the 3 day.

"1714. Mr. William Green patron buried October ye 29.

"1714. Margaret the daughter of Mr. William Green and of Ann his wife was baptized November the 3 day.

"1715. Martha the daughter of Mr. Willcox Green born January 29.

"1715. John Scampton and Jane Walton maried January ye 14.

"1715. Mr. George Chiseldine buried December ye 16.

"1715. Martha the daughter of Mr. Willson Godda: buried february 9."

The Greens are an old Somerby family; they were Patrons of the Vicarage, and Lords of the Manor. Some particulars about them, with other extracts from the Somerby Register, will be found in Dr. Howard's Misc. Gen. et Her., N.S., II. 191.

The Cheseldens were also an old Somerby family; and they were Lords of the Manor. In Somerby Church is a monument to the George Cheselden, whose burial is given above, from which it appears that he died December 9, 1715, aged 34: Nichols has preserved the inscription.

A few additional particulars about the Vicars of Somerby may be gleaned from the above extracts. Besides the fact that George Roberts was Vicar in 1683; we find that Nichols has wrongly called Mr. Lamb, *Leonard*, his real Christian name was *Lionel*, and he was certainly Vicar in 1632, and in 1636, and his wife's name was Frances. Again Nichols mentions Thomas *Burde* as the next Vicar; whereas he signs his name "Tho: *Brode*."

The following names occur in the Register:—Robartes, Harris, Wilson, Clarke, Simson, Eglefeilde, Knap, Scarborough, Goddard, Dawisey, Stary, Walton, Boss, Riley, Billington, Beeby, Midows, Trigg, Peale, Orson, Barnes, Adcock, Gond, Dent, Burton, Stringer, Gad, Burgidge, Baresby, Goode, Ratcliffe, &c.

It is hoped, hereafter, to print these Registers in full from Mr. Fletcher's transcripts.

SHACKERSTON PARISH REGISTER.

The following is a complete copy of this Register (see p. 232) made from the original by Mr. W. H. Allnutt of the Bodleian Library:—

Shakerston.

A Regester from the yeare of o^{r} Lorde god 1558 vntill the yeare of our Lorde god now present.

William Bylston & Anne Tomson were married the xxiiijth daye of Julye.
Robert Martin & Agnes Cleist were married the xviijth of November.
. . . . . .
Wy~~th~~ Geysford & Alice Fletcher were marryed the xxiij of October.
. . . . . day of [October.
. . . . . e xx [. . . .]
day of January . . . . . .

Christonings

Esthur Tomlynson [?] was chryst [oned . . . . . .]
May barwell was chrystoned xx [. . . . . .]
Anice Deacon was chrystened the [. . . . . .]
John Dyson was chrystenyd the xjxth [. . . . . .]

the yeare of [our Lord God] 1561.

Rychard Searon [was chrysten] yd the x [. . . .] ary.
Robert [. . . . .] xvijth [. . . . . .]
Thomas [. . . . .] the ffyrst [. . . . .]
Austyn [. . . . .] th day of [. . . . .]
Richard Port [er was chrystene] d the same day.
Wi~~th~~m Kytchyn [was chrystene] d the jxth day of October.
[. . . . . .] ye same day.
[. . . .] Pike [ring ? . .] yd the [. .] day of October.
[. . .] Tom [. . . . .] the [. .] day of October.

The yeare [of our Lord] god [1562].

[. . .] Richard [. . . . . .]
. . . . . .
Anne [. . . .] was christoned the [. . . . . .]
Mary Browne was christoned the xxiiith day of August.
Elizabeth Deacon was christoned the . . . day of August.

John M[ekyn] was christoned the xxvth day of No[vember].
ffrancis Jakes was christoned the . . . day of D[ecember].
Johanna Wilde was christoned the xviiith day of [February].
Arthur Whatley was christoned the xx . . [day of] February.
John fflamson was christoned the . . . day of [February].
Isbell Yate was christoned the xvth day of February.
Alis Smyth was christoned the xxiiith day of February.

The yeare of our Lord God 1563.

[. . .] G [. . .] was christoned the [xx] ixth of Julye.
[. . . .] ey was christoned [the xx] xith day of July.
[. . . .] ell was christoned the . . vth day of August.
[ ] was christoned the fyrst day of [. . . .]
[. . . . .] was christoned the . . xth day of [. . .]
[. . . . .] was christoned the [. . . day] of ffebruary.

The yeare of our Lord 1564.

Robert Dyson was christoned the x[. . .th] day Marche.
Henry Smyth was christoned the xxijth day of Aprill.
Joyse Porter was christoned the xxviijth of June.
Johane Jhonson was christoned the . . iiijth day July.
James Porter was christoned ix^{t} of July.
Thomas Yate was christoned the x^{t} day of September.
John Salysbury was christoned the xxix day of September.
Dorothe fflamson was christoned the xij day of Nouember.
Robert Deacon was christoned the xjth day of January.
John Browne was christoned the xith day of Marche.

The yeare of our Lord 1565.

Francis Kitchyn was christoned the xxvijth day of Marche.
John Bowne was christoned the xvth day of Aprell.
Anne Langley was christoned the xvth day of August.
William Watley was christoned the ixth day of May.
Anne W[. . .] was christoned the xvijth day of June.
Jo[hn . . . .] was christoned the vth day of October.
[. . . . .] was christoned the seconde of November.
[. . . .] Way was christoned the xvijth day of November.
Jame[. . . .] was christoned the vijth of December.
M[. . . .] arpe was christoned the third day of March.
W[. . . .] ye & Alys S[. . .] were christoned the xvjth of March.

The yeare of our Lord God 1566.

Wiłłm Ryvit was christoned the xxvth daye of Marche.

Wiłłm Porter was christoned the xxvjth day of Marche.
John Orton was christened the [. .] xth daye of July.
Wiłłm Yate was christ[ened the] xvth daye of September.
Margret fflamson was [christon]ed the xxviijth of September.
Thomas Salisbury was christened the fyrste day of October.
Mary Poole was christened the xxvijth of October.
ffrauncis Mekyn was christened the vijth of November.
Elyzabeth Deaken was christened the thyrd of January.
Arthur Gillit was christoned the xxiijth of January.
Thomas Saulte was christoned the vjth of January.
Mary Bolton was christoned the xxiijth of March.

The yeare of our Lord God 1567.

ffillious ignoty patris was christoned the last of March.
John Browne was christoned the xxxth of March.
Agnis Wilde was christoned the vjth of Aprill.
ffrancis Jakes was christoned the xxvth of Aprill.
Isbell Langley was christoned the xxvijth of May.
ffrancis Storar was christoned xijth of June.
Elizabeth Browne was christoned the xxiiijth of June.
Alis Plante was christoned the second of August.
James Kitchin was christoned the third of August.
John Whatley was christoned the xxxth of August.
Mary Roo was christoned the xiiijth of September.
John Gareson was christoned xviijth of ffebruary.

The yeare of our Lord God 1568.

John Sault was christoned the xxvth of March.
William Deacon was christoned the first of May.
Elinor Orton was christoned the first of May.
John Terill was christoned the xixth of June.
Alis Wever was christoned the viijth of August.
John Kitchin was christoned the viijth of August.
Alis Baker was christoned the xvth of August.
Thomas fflamson was christoned the xixth day of September.
Thomas Whatley was christoned the xxith of September.
John Whatley was christoned the xxith of September.
Thomas Saullesbury was christoned the xth of October.
Thomas Langley was christoned the xxviijth of October.
Thomas Barwell was christoned the xixth of December.
Richard Whatley was christoned the xvijth of March.

The yeare of our Lord God 1569.

Alis Saullesbury was christoned the xth of Aprill.
Anne Jakes was christoned the xxviijth of June.

William Bolton was christoned the xth of July.
Katherne Deacon was christoned the [thir]d of September.
Anne Biddill was christoned the [. . . .] of September.
Robert Kitchin was christoned xijth of December.
Thomas Bowne was christoned xxth of December.

Marriages. The yeare of our Lord god 1[. . .]

Thomas Ball & Elizabeth Bacon [was married the] xxxth of November.

The yeare of our Lord god [. . . .]

John Bolton & Jone Storar was maried the [. . . .]ay.
Walter Whatley & [. . .] Biddle was maried the xxvth of October.
John Redg & Margret [. . . .] was maried the ixth of November.
Richard Heads & [. . . .]amson was maried the xiiijth of January.

The y[eare of] our Lord god 1562.

Edward Skechley & [. . .] Grime was maryed the xxxth of May.
William Yate & Do[. . . . .]ford were maryed the xxviijth of July.

The yeare [of our] Lord 1563.

Water Bowne & Kathern[. . .]e was maried the xxiith of June.
John Poole & Alis Orton were maryed the vijth of November.

The yeare of our Lord 1564.

John Johnson & Elizabeth Saullesbury was maried the xvth of May.
John Gyllit & Anne Biddle was maried the xxxth September.
John Wilcox & Alis Hall was maried the xxiith of November.
William Belcher & Alis Biddle was maried the xxxth of December.
Richard Orton & Elizabeth Smyth was maried the xxiiijth of ffebruary.

The yeare of our Lord 1565.

Henry Storar & Margery Marpole were maryed the xxith of November.

Robert Hackwood & Elyzabeth Bower was maryed the xxith of November.

The yeare of our Lord 1566.

William Yate & Isbell Jebbit was maried the xxijth of Aprill.
Thomas Rooe & Jone Smyth was maried the xxviijth of October.

The yeare of our Lord 1567.

John Dilkes & Anne Marpoll was maried the vjth of August.
Wiłłm Hull & Alis Meykin was maried the iiijth of December.
Thomas Bilston & Margret Bidle was maried the xxijth of November.
Richard Deacon & Agnis Gadesby was maried the xxjth of January.

The yeare of our Lorde 1568.

John Cooke and Mary Smyth was maried the xviijth of Julye.
Wiłłm Pickering & Joane Greene were maried the xxvth of October.

Anno Dñe 1569.

Wiłłm Sheppard and Agnis Cademan were maried xijth of November.
Thomas Wightman and Joane Barwel were maried November xxvjth.

Buryinges Anno Dñe 1558.

Elizabeth Wilcoxe was buried the xxiijth day of Aprell.
Henry Smyth was buried the xth of May.
John Bolton vycar was buried the xiijth day of June.
John Smyth was buryed the firste of August.
Margery Sherousbury was buryed the same day.
Anne Ballard was buryed the xiijth of August.
Alys Jebytt was buryed the xxviijth of August.
Anne Barsford gent' was buried the vjth of September.
Alis Sarson was Buried the xiijth of September.
Thomas Biddle was Buried the xxvjth of September.
Robert Barsford gent was buried the xvjth of October.
John Martin was buried the xvjth of [. . . .] ber.
John Saullesbury was buried the third of Nov [emb] er.
William Biddle was buried the xxvjth [of . . . .] mber.
John Millores was buried the xvijth of [. . . .]
Wssely Langley was buried the vth of January.

Robert Deacon was buried the xixth of January.
Barbary Deacon was buried the xxiiijth of January.
Margrit Whatley was buried the xxxth of January.
Sir Robert Shrowesbury was the xxxth of January.
Wi‡m Langley was buried the third of ffebruary.
Alis Orton was buried the iiijth of ffebruary.
Avis Jebbit was buried the vijth of ffebruary.
John Kitchin was buried the vijth of March.
Arthur Dyson was buried the xvijth of March.
John Wolis was buried the xxth of March.
William Grime was buried the xxiiijth of March.

The yeare of our Lord 1559.

Joyse Wolis was buried the last of March.
Anthony Yate was buried the viijth of May.
Thomas Machime was buried the xjth of May.
Emet Griffin was buried the xvth of September.
Henry fflamson was buryed the xixth of September.
Joyse Sault was buried the xxth of October.
Roger Sherysbury was buryed the xxvth October.
Margery Wilcox was buried the vth of January.
Richard Jebbit was buried the xvjth of January.

The yeare of our Lord 1560.

Julian Deacon was buried the xvijth of Aprill.
William Browne was buried the xxiijth of Aprill.
ffrancis Johnson gent' was buryed the xxixth of May.
Joane Richards was buried the xvth of June.

The year of our Lord 1561.

William Poole was buried the xxviijth of March.
John Orton was buried the xxiijth of June.
Helin Smyth was buried the xijth of October.

The yeare of our Lord 1562.

Henry Grime was buried the xijth of May.
Wi‡m Bacon was buried the xxiijth of July.
Katherne Jaks gent' was buried the xixth of December.
Thomas Jebbit was buried the third of January.
John Brown was buried the xvth of ffebruary.

Anno domini 1563.

Alis Milnor was buried the second of Aprill.
Thomas Sault was buried the vth of September.

Austine Saullesbury was buried the second of October.
Edward . . . . was buried the xxijth of January.
John Browne was buried the xxith of March.

The yeare of our Lord 1564.

Thomas fflamsone was buried the xxth of September.
William Marpole was buried the xiijth of December.
John Tonlinson was burid the xth of ffebruary.
William Smyth was buried the xiijth of ffebruary.

The yeare of our Lord 1565.

John Wilson was buried the second of Aprill.
Arthur Storar was burid the xxvijth of January.
Elizabeth Shepperd was buried the xxiiijth of January.

The yeare of our Lord 1566.

John Smyth was buried the xvijth of Aprill.
Robert . . . buried the third of May.
John . . . as buried the . . of June.
Joyse . . . ult was buried the . . of November.
Elizabeth Biddle was buried the xviijth of December.
Andrew Tomlinson was buried the vjth of ffebruary.

The yeare of our Lord 1567.

ffillius ignoti patris was buried the iiijth of Aprill.

in the yeare of our lord 1568.

Elinor Barsford was buryed the xjth of September.
William Rivit was buried the xixth of Maye.
Alis Plant was buried the . . of Auguste.
James Kitchin was buried . . of Auguste.
William Grimie was buried the xxviijth of December.

The yeare of our Lord 1569.

John Kitchin was buried the xjth of August.
Elinor Barsford was buried the xjth of September.
Thomas Whatley was buried the xvijth of October.
Thomas Barwell was buried the xixth of March.

The yeare of our Lord 1570.

Sisley Saullesbury was buried the third of Aprill.
Agnis Deacon was buried the xxiijth of Aprill.

John Richards was buried the xvjth of September.

o

John Chise vicar was buried the last of December.
Joh' Bolton vicar 1530 buried ye 13th of June 1558.
Joh' Choyse vicar sepult ye last of December 1570.

Christeninges from Anno Dñe 1570.

Thomas Storer was christoned the xviijth of March.
Henry Gillot was christoned the xijth of May.

Elizabeth Jaques daughter of John Jaques baptized Julie jxth
John Roe son of Thomas Roe was baptised August xxviijth
Henry Orton baptized and buried february xxth.
Isabel Terrel baptised May jxth.
William Weuer baptised Maye xvjth.
Anne Sareson baptised January vjth.

Burijnges.

Joane Patchet widdow buried Auguste xixth.

Anno 1571.

Elizabeth Storer wife of Thomas Storer buried february xxvijth.
ffrauncϱ Storar buried November the xxth.

Anno 1572.

Richard Salisburie son of Walter Salisbury buried Januarj viijth.
Dorothe Bolton daughter of John boulton christened Januar' viijth.
Edward Clarke and Agnis choise maried Januar' xxvjth.
John Jaques baptized March xxxth.

Anno domine 1573.

ffrauncϱ Wheatley baptized October xxjxth.
Dorothe the daughter of Henry Storer baptize Januar' xxvth.
ffrauncis Langley son of James Langley baptized June xth.
John the son of Margery Bacon baptized the same day.
Elizabeth the daughter of John Orton baptized August xxiijth.
Robert Clarke baptized September xxth.

An°. dñe 1573.

Anne Langley daughter of James Langley buried November the vijth.
George Bidle buried March 3.
Thomas the son of Walter . . . . buried March xvijth.
John Taylor buried April the xxiijth.
Raph Boulton buried June vijth.
John Marpole buried Auguste xxiiijth.

1574.

Antonye Taylor & Joane Gisburne buried July xvth.

An°. dne 1574.

Nicholas Bownam & Elizabeth Marpole maried the 3 of November.
ffrauncę the son of Hugh Weeuer baptized January 17th.
Wiłłm the son of Robert Humpstone baptized february 15.
Dorothe the daughter of Thomas Roe baptized february xxiijth.
Robert the son of Nicholas Bownam baptized March xxvijth.
Alice the daughter of Thomas Deacon baptized the same day.
Edward the son of Wiłłm Storer baptized April the 4$^{t.}$
Elizabeth the daughter of Rob'te Orton baptized Maye jxth.
Thomas Wood and Cisele Clarke were maried the viijth daye of November.
Thomas Cruell and Anne Pate maried Aprill xxviijth.
the son of Anthony Taylor buried June jxth.
Richard the son of Henry Salisbury baptised Auguste vijth.
Robert the son of John flamstone baptised August vijth.

Ann° dñe 1574.

Wiłłm the son of Robert Marplate baptized the xxvjth of September.

Anno dñe 1575.

Robert Lett and Joane Yate were maried Novemb^{r}. vijth.
Robert the son of Nicholas Bretfield were maried the xiijth of Marche [*sic.*]
ffrauncis the son of Walter Salisbury buried March 3.
John the son of Anthony Taylor baptized the same day.
Thomas the son of Thomas Moore baptized 3 of December.
Anne Bownam baptized June xiijth.
Thomas Arden and Anne Barforde were maried the xxijth of June.
Robert Richards was boarne the same daye.

An°. dñe 1579.

Julius Watson then vicar of Shakerston.
Walter Bowne and John flamston churchwardens.

Thomas Prisuall and Katherin Gortun maried Decembr j.
John Wilcoxe was buried the 3 of December.
Wiłłm Ball was maried the fyrst of December.
Richard Bacon was maried the frist of December.
Issabell Wildes of Snarson was buried the viijth of January.
Mary Tyffir was christoned the xvth of ffebuary.
John Bownane was christoned the vijth of ffebruay.
John Marpoll was buried the xvijth of March.
Sara Deas was christoned the xijth of Aprill.
Katherine Humpson was christoned the xvth of Aprill.
Mary Tifvir was buried the viijth of Aprill.
Adrian Barsford was christoned the xvth of June.
John Storar was christoned the xviijth of October.
John Greene was christoned the xviijth of October.
Rich: Everat was maryed the second of November.
Kathern Arden was christened the xth of November.

Shakerstone Anno 1580 Julius Watso vicar
Robert Orton & Richard Orton churchwardons.

Thomas Yates was buried ffebruary xixth.
Tho: Barwell was maried June xixth.
Tho: and Edward Barford baptised June xxviijth.
Judith Deacon was baptised September xxith.
Alis Wyate buried October xiijth.
Andrewes wyfe buried October xiiijth.
Elizabeth Sareson buried October xxxth.
Henry Bidle was maried November xxvjth.
Richard Bidle of Snareson maried November xxviijth.
John Taylor and Jayes Hide were baptised November xxjth.
Wiłłm Bownam was buried December the xijth.

Anno dñe 1581. Shakerston.

Julius Watson Vicar.
Henry Storar and Richard Orton churchwardons.

The Heardę wiff was buried the xxviijth of December.
Dorothie Arden christened the xjth of January.
John Yats was maried the xvjth of January.
John Bacon was maried the xxiijth of January.
Joyse Hardin was buried the first of ffebruary.
Wiłłm . . . of Oddeston was christoned the second of ffebr.

Thomas Hardin was maryed the vjth of ffebruary.
Ellin Bacon was christened the xijth of ffebruary.
Arthur Clark was maried the xijth of March.
Dorothie Barwell was christoned the second of Aprill.
Robert Tealor was Buried the xijth of May.
Johne Rise was buried the xiiijth of May.
Mother Gisburne of Oddeston was buried the first of July.
Marie Clark was baptized the second of July.
John Walplat was baptized the third of September.
John Teyler was buried the vijth of September.
Dorothie Green was baptizad the viijth of October.

Ano. Dom̄. 1582 { Wiłł Sarson and Robert Barwell } Churchwardons.
Julius Watson vicar.

John Jebbit was maried the xxjxth of January.
John fflamson was buried the xvth of Aprill.
Agnis Swinfield was buried the xviijth of Aprill.
Henry Biddle was christoned the vjth of May.
Elizabeth Roe was baptized the xxjxth of June.
Katherne Pyme was baptized the vijth of July.
Dorothie Watson was baptized the 22th of October.
Wiłłm Bowman was baptized the xxxth of October.
John Vnderwood was maried the xxviijth of October.
John Storer was maried the xxvjth of November.
Elizabeth Storer was baptized the xxxth of November.

Anno Dom̄ 1583. { Robert Greenne and Wiłł Gisbowrn } Churchwardens.
Julius Watson vicar.

Margrit Arden was baptized the xxvijth of December.
Dorothie Yats was baptized the xvjth of January.
Robert Teyler was baptized the xxvijth of January.
John Yats was maryed the xxiijth of May.
Sara Barwell was baptized the vijth of July.
Robert & Katherne Jebbitt was baptized the xxviijth of July.
Robert Jebbit was buried the xxjxth of July.
Wiłłm Tomlinson was baptized the xjth of Auguste.
Katherie Jebbit was buried xiijth of Auguste.
Dorothie Barsford was baptized the xxviijth of August.
Katherne Clark was baptized the vth of September.
Thomas Storer was baptized the xvth of September.
Thomas Greene was baptized the xxijth of December.
Elizabeth Biddle was baptized the xxvth of December.

An° dominj 1584 Juljus Watson viccar.
Robert Grinne & Wiłłm Gisborne Churchwardens.

Mary Arden was baptized the first of January.
Thomas Greene was buried the the xxiiijth of January.
Josyas Walplat baptized the second of ffebruary.
Henry Sarson was maried the xxvijth of July.
Elizabeth Bradfeild was baptized the xxiijth of September.
Sissely Bacon was maried the xijth of October.

Anno Dom̄ 1584 Julius Watson vicar
John Storer and Rich: Bacon Churchwardens.

John Biddle and Margrit fflamson was maried the vijth of December.
Henry Grime was baptized the xxth of December.
Elizabeth Arden was baptized the xiiijth of ffebruary.
John Biddle was buried the iiijth of March.

An°. Dne 1585

Joyse Sarson was buried the xxiiij of Aprill.
John Bowne was Christoned the xxvth of Aprill.
Judeth Watson was baptized the ffirst of May.
Anne Yats was baptized the xvjth of May.
Henry Biddle was baptized the xijth of September.
Issabell Tealer was Baptized the xixth of September.
Thomas Bacon the sonne of Jhon Bacon was chrysned xxiij October.
Anne Byddle ye daughter of Henrye Byddle was baptized ye xvij October.
Henrye Storar was buryed the xij of November Anno D^{ne} 1585.
Anna Byddle was buryed ye xviijth daye of Deceber.
Rueth Barwell ye daughter of Thomas Barwell was baptized the xix December.
Rueth Barwell ye daughter of Thomas Barwell was buryed ye xiijth January.
Elyzabeth Arden the daughter of Thomas Arden was buryed ye xiijth January.
Helin Roe the daughter of Thomas Roo was christned ye xxth of March.
Marye Plantt ye daughter of Jhon Plantt was christned ye xth of Aprill.
Agnis Weaver was buryed the xijth of Apryll.
Wyllyam Bownam sonne of Nycholas Bownam was baptyzed ye xxiijth Aprill.
Anna Clarke ye daughter of Arthur Clarke was Baptized ye xxvijth of Aprill.

Robart Byddle ye Sonne of Henrye Byddle was baptyzed ye iiij^th^ December.
Elyzbeth Bacon ye daughter of Rychard Bacon was baptyzed ye xj^th^ of December.
Mathewe Kytchin was buried the xj^th^ day of December.

The yeare of our Lord 1586.

George Arden was baptized the xix of Januarye.

Anno dn̄e 1587.

Dorothye Rice baptized the Seconde of Aprill Anna Dn̄ie 1585.
Dorothy Rice was buried ye xxij of Aprill Anna dn̄i 1585.

The yeare of our Lord 1587.

George Walplatt was baptised ye xij^th^ July Anna Dn̄ie 1585.
Elizabeth Greene was baptised ye xxx of June Anna Dn̄ie 1585.

The yeare of our Lord An°. Domini 1587.
And was buried the xxj of September.

The yeare of our Lord 1588.

Thomas Deeppinge and Anna Rice was maried the xviij day of October.
Anna Baston the daughter of Balste Baston was baptised x^th^ Marche.
Henry Prinsep and Anna Whale was maried vij day of Nouember.
Mary Arden was baptised the iiij^th^ day of ffebruary.
Elizabeth Arden was baptised the ix day of March.
[*An entry erased.*]
Thomas Bidle was baptised the xiij^th^ day of Aprill.
ffrauncis Barford was buried the xix^th^ of Aprill.
Henry Barwell was buried the xxj^th^ daye of June.
Katheren Tomlison was baptised the third daye of Auguste.
Thomas Bydle was baptised the fyrste day of September.
Katharin* Prinsep was baptised the xiiij^th^ day of September.
Jeffery Dipinge was baptised the xx^th^ day of September.

the yeare of oure Lord Anno Domini 1589.

Arthur Bereford was baptised 24th day of October.
Jhon More and Susanna Butler was maried 19th day of November.†

* The word "Whale" is erased.
† The word "January" is erased and "November" written over.

John Bounde and Margery borkes was maried the 20th day of January.
Thomas perie and Anna sheppard was maried 30th of Januarye.
Hugh Holland was buried the 23th day of March.
Aggnes Sarson was buried the 29th day of Aprill.
Willam Bacon was baptised 5th day of Apryll.
Agnas Byddle was buried the first day of Maye.
George berford was buried the 16th day of Maye.
Elizabeth Yates was baptised the 28th day of June.
Jeese Greene was baptised 14th daye of Julye.

Anno Dº. 1589.

Edward Haddne and Margere storer was maryed first Nouember.
The sonne of John Jebet was buried the syxte daye of Nouember.
Roberte Stretton and Anna Gillet was mared 14th of December.
George Barwell was baptised the iiijth of December.
Dorothe Clarke was baptised the firste of January.
Wiłłm Sareson was baptised the xvth of December.
Sara Plante was baptised the firste of ffebruary.
The sonne of John bounde was buried the third daye of March.

Anº. Dñe 1590.

John Salisbury was buried the thirde daye of Maye.
Elizabeth Biddle was baptysed the iijd daye of Maye.
John Jakes was buried Maye the xiiijth.
William Stretten was bapsed Auguste xiiijth.

Añno Dñe 1591.

Abraham Bacon was baptised October the xjth.
Dorothy Berford and the wife of Arthur Berford gent. weere buried the second daye of Decembr
The sonne of John Jebbit was buried Decembr xiiijth.
John Deeping was baptised December xxvijth.
George Yemans and Mary Roo weere maried ffebruary 2d.
John Moore & Elianor Orton were maried ffebruary vijth.
Richard Bestocke was baptised ffebruary xiiijth.
Thomas Prinsope was baptised March xiiijth.

Ano Dñe 1591.

Henry Wilcox was baptised March xiiijth.
Joane Salisbury buried Aprill xiiijth.

Thomas ffrauncꝭ and Alice Sareson were maried the xvth day of June.
Thomas Riuet was buried June xxvijth.
Ellyn Bacon buryed Julye xjxth.

An°. domini 1592.

Abraham Bacon was baptised October xjth. [*crossed through.*]
Robert Greene and Jayse Langford were maried January xiiijth.
Robert Bouney [*sic*] was baptised March third.
Thomas Salisbury baptised Maye xxiiijth.
Thomas Pryntopp buried June the second. [*partly erased.*]
Jane Taylor buried June xxiiijth.
ffrauncꝭ Rivett buried June xxviijth.
Margery Kytchen July xxiiijth.
Martha Moore baptised July xxvjth.
Thomas Salisbury buryed September xxth.
Ellyn Stretton baptised September xxjth. | an° dn̄e 1593.
Dorothy Perry baptised Octob^{r} xxviijth.
Martin Meekyn was buried Novemb^{r} xxth.
Thomas Knight was baptised November xth.
Robert Barwell buried December xvijth.
Thomas Deacon alias sheppard buried febrū ij^{d}.
Raph Gysburne buryed february 9th.
Joane Cantrell buried ffebruary xxjxth.
Wiłłm Moore baptised March xxvth.
Agnis Smith was buried March xxviijth.
John Jakes was buried Aprill the fyfte.
Nicholas Breadfeild buried May iiijth.
John Goodman was baptised May xiijth.
Bidle baptised June the thirde.
Elizabeth Baptised June the thirde.
The sonne of John Jebit buried July xiiijth.
Thomas Taylor buried July xiiijth.

An°. Dn̄e 1594.

John Wale and Mary Holland wer maried the xxth daye of Novemb^{r}.
Robert Jekes & Agnis Robinson were maried November the xxxth.
Dorothe Orton and Agnis Plant baptised Januar' 9.
James Winterhowse & An Orton maried April xxijth.
John Salisbury baptised March xth.
Jhon Gisburne baptised June the ixth.
Richard Bradley & Joane Wilde maried July viijth.

Alice Salisbury baptised Auguste iij^{d}.
Elizabeth Scallet baptised Auguste xxvth.
Thomas Jebitt baptised September the viijth.
John Stretton baptised September the xxth.

An° Dñe 1594.

Mary Whatley baptised September xxjxth.

An° Dñe 1595.

Richard Wilcox & Alice Wilde maried Octob^{r} 19th.
John Whale was baptised November the third.
Arthur Moore baptised Novemb^{r} the xth.
Katheryn Hausewell baptised January xvth.
John Swynfeild baptised Marche the second.
Jeffery Bownam baptised March the nynth.
Elizabeth Breadfeild buryed March March the xxth.
Marget Salisbury buryed June xxth.
Richard Biddle baptised June xxiijth.
Mary Rynnet was baptised June xxiijth.
ffrauncϱ Wilcox baptised July the xiijth.
John Sharpe baptised Auguste the third.

Ano Dñe 1596.

Bridgit Orton was baptised October the v^{t}.
Bridget Orton was buryed December ye iiijth.
Thomas Plant baptised January xxijth.
Robert Holland was buryed Aprill the xxijth.
Barbara Glascut baptised May ye firste.
Margaret Tomlinson buried August ye seaventh.
Agnes Gyllet was buryed Septemb^{r} xvjth.

An° Dñe 1597.

John Smyth and ffrancϱ Mekin were marryed October the fourth.
John Boune was baptised viij of December.
Joyse Greene Buried xv of Januarie.
Edward More was baptized xxiij Januarie.
Williā Jekes was baptized xxvij februarie.
Agges Robinson was buried xv March.
Margaret Holland was buried xvj March.
Robert Jekes was burie iij of Aprill.
Agges Wilcox was buried xv of Aprill.
Robert Orton was baptized xvij Aprill.
Williā Baal and Dorothy Roe were maried xx June.
Robert Moosle agges Breadfilde were maried the xv July.

Thomas Mountne was baptized the xxi August.

The yere of our Lorde god 1598.

Rycharde Salysburye and Agnes Rowe weare maried the xviijth daye of October.
James Barrowe & Jhoane Byddle weare maried the xxxth daye of October.
ffrauncis Hunte & Margerett Chapman were maried ye xxijth daye of Novēber.
John Byddle was baptized ye xixth of ffebruary.
John Sharpe was buried ye xxth of ffebruary.
Agnes Gysburne was baptized ye xviij of March.
Robt : Orton buried the xvth of Maye.
Edward Stretton and Marye Tomlinson were baptized the seconde of Julye.
Robt Mosley was baptized ye xiij of August.
Henrye Wilcox was baptized ye xxviij of Auguste.
Robt : Mosley was buried ye ij of September.
George Swinfeylde baptized ye iij of Septēb^{r}.
Henrye Wilcox was buried ye xiij of Septēb^{r}.

Anno Dom 1599.

Isabell Shalsburie was Baptized the xvth of October.
Thomas Breadfeild was buried the xviijth of October.
Thomas Depinge was buried the vjth of November.
George Wote and Marye Smalle weare maryed the xxth of November.
Thomas Boman was buried the xiijth of Janeuare.
Henrye Willcox was buried the xiiijth of Janeuare.
Nicholas Salte and Marye Orton weare maryed the vth day of ffeabruare.
Thomas Garner and Chatheren Bowene weare marryed the xth day of ffeabruare.
Marye More was Baptized the xviijth of ffeabruare.

Ano Dō Suzanna Shalton was Buried the xxvth of Marche.
1599. Catheren Bowne was buried the viijth of Aprill.
Mary Depinge was Baptized the xxth of May.
The sonn of Thomas Hanwell was buried the xxth of May.
Elizabeth Printop was Baptized the first of July.
John Mosley was Baptized the second of September.
John Mole was Buried the xxvth of September.
Suzanna Stretton was buried the xxviijth of September.

John More vicker. Thomas Rowe & John Storer Churchwardens.

Thomas Stevenson and Agnes Byddle weare maried ye xxix^th^ daye of October.
Wyłłm Christmas & Ame Bowenam weare maried the xxv^th^ daye of November.
John Mekyn and Agnes Depeinge weare maried the xvj^th^ daye of Januarye.
Dorothye Tomlinson was baptyzed the xx^th^ daye of Januarye.

Anno Dom̄i 1600.

Jhon Willcox was Baptized the xx April.
Mary Chrestemas was Baptized xviij May.
Robeart Roe was Baptized vj July.
Jonne Berwell was Buried xxj Juli.
Jhon Gisbron was Baptized iij August.
Jhon Orton was Baptized x August.
Sisle Power was Buried i September.
Mathew Harthwell was baptized vij Septem.
Thomas More was Baptized xj October.
John Orton and Dorothy Jates were maried xxij October.
Jonne Plante was buried xxviij October.
Robert Hichinson & Elizabeth Orton maried iij November.
William Orton & Ellin Bacon were maried ix Novēber.
John fforrian was baptized xiiij November.
Sara Mosle was Baptized xiiij Decēber.
Dorothy Bedle was Baptized xxij March.

Anno Dom̄ 1601.

Jonne Bowne was Baptized iij May.
Robert Meken was Baptized xij Aprill.
Nycholas Bownam and Cornilia Gooder maried xi May.
Ex^tu^et ałł . 23°. Junij . 1601 . W. Stynoppe.

Elizabeth Saluberye was Baptized 24 June.
Elizabeth Garner Buried xxvj December.
John Garner Buried x day Januarie.
Elizabeth Walplate Buried xvij februarie.
Roger Bownā Baptized xxviij februarie.

Anno Dom̄ 1602.

Robert Grenne was Buried xvj May.
Wiliā Printop Baptized xxiij May.

Samuell More Baptized v September.
Marie Swinfilde Buried xxx September.
John Bedle Buried xiij October.
George Swinfilde Buried xx October.
John Mosle Baptized xij of December.
Sisle Smith was Buried xxv December.
Elizabeth Orton Baptized vj Januarie.
Dorothy Garner Baptized xxiij Januarie.
John Mosle Buried xix februarie.
Nicolas Farian Baptized . . . . . .

Anno Dom̄ 1603.

William Grieme was Baptized x Aprill.
The sonne of Thomas Hautwell was buried xxvj Aprill.
The daughter of John Tomlingson was buried 21 June.
Johninge Tune & Elizabeth Stoer were maried the 28 of June.
Williā fare was Baptized 10 July.
Sammuell More was buried 22 July.
Mary Burdland was Baptized 1 August.
Wiliam Tvne was Baptized 15 September.
Wiliam Tune was buried 1 October.
Arthur Rice was Baptized 13 November.
Mari Roe was Baptized 8 Januarie.

Shakerston Anno Dō 1604.

Edward Mosle Baptized 10 June.
Samuell More was Baptized 11 June.
Edward Bedle was Baptized 1 July.
Jonne Hauchwell was Buried 8 July.
Omphrye Gisburne was Baptized 5 Augst.
Susanna Tomlinson was Baptized 8 Septēber.
Steuen Swinfilde was Baptized 30 Septem.
Susanna Tomlinson was Baptized x October.
John Gelet was Baptized xxi October.
John Gelet was Buried 8 December.
Thomas Tvne was Baptized 24 December.
Water Wale was buried 5 Januarye.
Elizabeth Hichinson was Baptized 20 January.
Robeart Rooe was buried 21 January.
Jonne Rooe was buried 4 february.

John More vicar.

Año Dō 1605.

Henry Saluberie was buried 26 March.
John Yates was buried 28 March.
Water Saluberi was buried 28 July.
James Creple was buried 8 Augst.
Elizabeth Orton de Snarston Baptized.
Anna Orton was buried 24 Augst.
John Rooe was Baptized 8 Septe
John Garner Baptized 20 October.
Robeart Walplat buried 22 October.
Thomas flamson and Elizabeth Yeat were maried the 4 November.
Ellin Sarson was buried 14 Novēb.
Margari Hadden was buried xxix Nouember.
Nicholes Rice was Baptized viii Decē.
Elizabeth Hichinson was buried xxij Decē.
Grace Gellet was buried xxiij Januarie.
Henri Gellet was buried xxi Januarie.
George Swinfielde was Babtized 24 februarie.

Anō Domī 1606.

Thomas Greene was Baptized xxix March.
Sara Orton Baptized 22 June.
Alice Crater buried 10 July.
Elizabeth Bacon buried 4 Septēber.
Omphre Gisbrone Baptized 21 Septēber.
William Berford buried 26 Septēber.
Martha Bowne and Anna Tomlinson were Baptized 5 October.
Edward Saluberie and Agnes Saluberie were maried 6 October.
The son of Richard Wilcox buried 22 October.
florence Printop Baptized 14 Decēber and buried 10 Januarie.
Thomas Saluberie Baptized 6 februarie.
Williā Hichinson Baptized 21 februarie.
Williā Meken Baptized the iiii March.

Anō Domi 1607.

Dorothy Flamson the daughter of Thomas Flamson was baptized the x of Aprill.

Antonie Tealer buried xx Aprill.
Elizabeth Mosle the daughter of Robeart Mosle was Baptized iij May.
The son of William Bedle buried x July.
Mr. Mychaell Asleie and Mrs. Dorothy Barford were maried iij of October.
Elizabeth the daughter of ffrancis Hichinson was buried vj of October.
Water Salt buried viij October.
Thomas Rooe the sonne of Robeart Rooe was Baptized xxiiij Januarie.
Rychard Wilcox the sonne of Rychard Wilcox Baptized vj februarye.
John Ryce the sonne of Antonye Ryce Baptized xiij March.
Thomas the sonne Rychard Saluberie was Buried xxiiii March.

John More
Vicar.

Año Dom̄ 1608

Elizabeth the daughter of Robeart Hichinson was buried iij of Aprill.
Elizabeth the daughter of John Tomlingson was baptized the xvij Aprill.
Mary Rooe the daughter of Thomas Rooe was baptized xvj Maye.
Mr Jakes was buried xv June.
Williā the son of Williā Beddle was Baptized iiii July.
Anna Orton the daughter of Williā Orto was Baptized xxx July.
Arthur the sonne of Thomas Bowne was Baptized xx Augst.
Isabell the daughter of Henry Printop was Baptized xxviij Augst.
Thomas Berwell buried xxx Augst.
Briget daughter John Rooe was Baptized iiii Septē.
Robeart the sonne of Wiliā Greene was Baptized xj December.
Susanna the daughter of John More was Baptized xxix January.
George the sonne of Rychard Saluberi was Baptized xxvj february.
John the sonne Thomas flamson was Baptized xxvj february.

John More vicar. Williā Bedle } Churchwardens.
. . . . . }

An° Dom̄ 1609.

Rychard the son of Thomas Pime buried xxviii March.
Raph Swinfilde the son of Rychard Swinfilde was baptized xxiii Aprill.
Daniell Philipts and Elizabeth Checle were maried xxvi of Aprill.
Williā and Elizabeth children of John Gisborne were Baptized xiii August.
John Jebet was buried vj Septēber.
George Barwell and Elizabeth Bedle and Thomas Robearts and Sara Barwell were maried xvj October.
Henri Sarson was buried xvj Decēber.
The sonne of Nathaniell Walplate was buried x Januari.

John More Vicar — Añ Dō 1610 — Williā Sarson. Thomas Roe.

Water Boune was buried 26 March.
Robeart Mosle was buried 6 July.
Elizabeth the daughter of Williā Bidle Baptised 21 July.
Dorothy the daughter of George Berwell Baptized 5 August.
ffrancis the son of ffrancis Hichinson Baptized 2 Decem.
Nathaniell the son of Nathaniell Walplate was Baptized the day of 20 Januarie.
John Gelet was buried 27 Januarie.
John Risse was buried 29 Januarie.
Rychard Butler and Jonne Jebet maried 31 Januarie.
Sara More the daughter of John More Baptized the 17 day March.

Añ Dō 1611. John More vicar { John Ortone, Thomas fflanson } gardiani.

Sara Rooe the daughter John Rooe Baptized 19 Maye.
the sonne of John Bedle was buried 28 Maye.
Isabell the daughter of Thomas fflamson Baptized 2 June.
Henrye the sonne Williā Bedle Baptized 9 June.
Marie the daughter of Richard Swinfilde Bap. 16 June.
Edwarde the sonn of Thomas Robertes Baptized 15 Septem.

Thomas Joyce and Elizabeth Wryght maried 4 Nouember.
Larance Croshow and Elizabeth Jacson maried 14 Nouember.
Brian the sonne Robeart Berford Baptized 19 Nouember.
Thomas Saluberie was buried 12 December.
Walliam Sarson was buried 16 Januarie.
Elizabeth the daughter of John Tholinson buried [31 Januarie ?]
Elizabeth the daughter of John Tomlinson . . . . .

Añno Domi 1612 John More vicar { John Orton, Thomas flamson Churchwardens.

Williā Smith was buried 25 March.
William Sarson was buried 29 March.
Henry Printope was buried 18 of Aprill.
Arden Stoer was buried 21 Aprill.
William the sonn of Robeart Rooe bapti 19 Aprill.
ffrancis the sonne of Williā farrian was baptized 24 May.
Rychard the sonn Wiliā Bosworth bapti 31 May.
ffrancis Hichinson was buried 4 July.
William Hichinson was buried 18 August.
Mr. Arthur Berford was buried 4 October.
Henry the sonn George Berwel baptized 4 October.
Joyce Orton was buried 11 October.
Mr. Thomas Jaques was buried 31 October.
ffrancis Rydeard and Sara Plant was maried xxiii Novemb.
Thomas Breadfild and Sibbel farmer maried xxiii November.
Nathaniell the sonne of Rychard Saluberie was Baptized xxviii December.
Dorothy fflamson buried xxviii December.
Brigit the daughter of Nathaniell Walplate was Baptized xxiiii Januarie.
Dorothy the daughter Robeart Berford was Baptized xxi februarie.
Jonne the daughter Thomas ffarian was Baptized 14 March.

Anno Domi 1613.

Rychard the sonne of Edward Moore was Baptized vi of June.
Nycolas Saluberie buried ij October.

Anna the daughter John Rooe baptized x October.
Thomas Breadfeild buried xix October.
John the sonne John Tune baptized xxxi October.
John Walplat and Ellin Palmer were maried iiii November.
John Wheatle was buried xi Januarie.
Anna Printop was buried xix Januarie.
Elizabeth Marple Baptized vij of ffebruarie.
William Hull was buried } xiiii ffebruarie.
Elizabeth Marple was buried }

Anno Dom̄i 1614.

Elizabeth Jekes was buried xxiii Aprill.
Isbell Salubery was buried xxiii June.
Isabell Bacon was buried ii August.
Henry Ludford and ffrances* Copper maried x October.
John the sonne of Nathaniell Walplat baptize xvii November.
John Meken was buried vi of December.
M^r^. ffrancis Danvers and M^ris^ Brigit Berford were maried xvii December.
John Wheatle was buried xxix December.
Marye the daughter of George Berwell was Baptized the v of ffebruary.
Thomas the sonne of Robeart Rooe buried xiiii febru.
Katheren Copland was buried xxi [*left blank.*]
Rychard the son of Williā Bedle baptized [*partially erased.*]

Ano Dom̄i 1615.

Rychard the son of Williā Bedle baptized xxvi March.
Thomas Saluberie buried xxvij March.
Rychard the son of Rychard Saluberye was buried the xxi Aprill.
The daughter of ffrancis Hichinson was buried 2 June.
The sonne of Williā Marple was buried 30 August.
John Sarson was buried 3 October.
John the sonne of Andrew Jekes was Baptised 15 October.
Dorothy the daughter of Henri fflamson was Baptized 12 November.
John Ashsen anna Plant were maried 28 November.
Aggnes Wheatle was buried 21 December.
Elice Yeate and Thomas Ros were buried 18 Januarie.

* The word "Elizabeth" is erased and "ffrances" written over.

William Tomlinson Bap 13 [february].
Thomas Perye was buried 21 february.

Anno Domi 1616.

Josias Walplate and Anne Lawkings were maried xx Aprill.
Henrie the sonne of Rychard Saluberie was Baptized xii Maye.
Thomas Rooe was buried iiii June.
Elizabeth Orton was buried xxvi May.
ffrancis the daughter of ffrancis Hichinson was Baptized vii of July.
Rychard Bacon buried xxviii September.
Elizabeth Orton was buried ii of October.
Marie the daughter of Willā ffarian was Baptized v Januarie.
Henrie the sonne of Thomas fflamsonn was Baptized ix ffebruarie.
Nycolas Sharpe was buried xx februarie.

Anno Dom. 1617.

Rychard Orton was buried 24 Aprill.
Jopseph the son of Josias Walplat was Baptized 28 Aprill.
Samuell the son of Nathaniell Walplat was Baptized 1 Maye.
Joseph Walplat was buried ix day of May.
ffrancis Cvninggam and Dorothy Pery maried 20 May.
William Beddle was buried xx2 day of May.
Agnes Gisborne was buried xxviii day of May.
Agnes Tailer was buried 10 July.
Mathew the son of Robeart Barford was baptized 5 August.
William the son of John Rooe was baptized 17 of August.
Elizabeth Croshew was buried 24 of August.
Roger Gisborne was buried 25 of August.
Williā* the sonne of John Tune Baptized 31 August.
Thomas the son of Rychard Vnderwood was Baptized 14 of September.
Elizabeth the daughter of Williā Tomlinson was Baptized 10 October.
Mathew Berford buried 11 October.
Williā Sarson was buried 15 October.
Sisle Vnderwood buried 22 October.
Henry Bedle and Elizabeth Bedle were maried 4 November.

* The word "Matthew" is erased and "Williā" written over.

Rychard the son of Andrew Jakes was Baptized 18 January.
George the son Georg Berwell was Baptized 1 ffebruary.

John More vicar { John Bowne / Hery Bedle } gar.

Anno Domini 1618.

Anne the daughter of William Sarson was Baptized the 10 May.
Thomas the sonn of Robert Rooe was baptized the 24 of May.
Richard the sonn of Richard Blastocke was baptized 7 of June.
William the sonne Richard Addams was baptized 5 of July.
Peter Wood was buried the 17 of July.
Elizabeth Chroshaw was buried v August.
John the son of Henry Bedle was Baptized 6 September.
John and Jone the sonne and daughter of Henry fflamson was baptized 14 of Desember.
Katheren Sharpe was buried 18 Januarie.
Robeart the sonne of Thomas fflamson was baptized the 14 of ffabruarie.
Richard the sonne of Richard Salsberie was baptized the 14 of ffebruarie.
Robert the sonne of Josias Walplate was baptized the 14 day of March.

Anno Domini 1619

Dorothy the daughter William Breadfild was Baptized 11 Aprill.
Elizabeth Wheatly was buried 5 of June.
Sara the daughter of Richard Salisburie was baptized 15 of August.
Ailses the daughter of William fforrian was baptized 3 of October.
John Tailer and Anne Chester was maried 4 of November.
ffrancis the sonne of William Tumlinson was baptized 14 of November.
Daniell the son of Nathaniell Walplat was baptized 21 of November.
Robeart the son of Richard Blastock was baptized 9 of January.
Arthur More and ffrancis Sarson was maried 16 of January.

Anno Domini 1620.

Jhon Sharpe and Elizabeth Donde were maried 24 of June.
Elizabeth the daughter George Berwell was Baptized 19 of November.
Samuell Tatenell and Katherine Pime were maried 20 of November.
Jonathan the son of Rychard Vnderwod Baptized 26 November.
Roberte Hasarde and Sara Hall were maried 23 of November.
Dorcas the daughter of Josias Walplatized [*sic*] was Baptized 2 December.
Richard fflechar and ffrancis Willcocks were maried 28 of November.
Richard Wilcox were buried 1 of Januarie.
Thomas the sonne of Arthur More was Baptized the 4 february.
Katheren Chaplin was buried 4 Marche.
John Plant was buried 6 March.

Anno Domini 1621.

Edward the son of Henry Biddel was bap— 2 of Ma.
Raph the son of Andrew Jakes was baptized 25 of March.
Frances Moore was baptized ix of Aprill.
Thomas and John the sones of John Roe was baptized 21 of Junne.
Dorothy the dawghter of William Biddle was baptized 24 of June.
Edward the son of William Biddle de Snarston was baptized 1 of Junly.
Laranes the son of Laranes Crosiar was baptized xi of August.
John the son of William Tumllinson was baptized xxvij October.
Henry Nuton and An Jacson maried xx November.
Robeart Schechly and Jone Peg maried xxviiij November.
Thomas the son of Richeard Flechcher baptized vj January.
Thomas Bacon was buried vii January.
William the son of Mathew Sarson baptized iij February.

Johannes More ibidem Vicarius.

Anno Domini 1622.

Nicolas the son of John Tailer was baptized 26 of May.

William the son of William Bradfeild was baptized 23 of June.
Elizabeth the daughter of Robeart Roe was baptized 1 September.
Paul Walplat was baptized being the son of Josias Walplat the 8 December.
James Blastocke the son of Richard Blastocke was baptized the 2 of ffebruary.
An Mekin was buried the 3 of ffebruary.
Raph Bason was buried the 1 of ffebruary.
Mary Walplat was bured the 22 of March.

Añ Dom: 1623.

Martha More daughter of Arthur More was bapt. the 6th of Aprill.
Elizabeth fflamson daughter of Thomas fflamson was baptized the 27th day of Aprill.
Thomas Pickering and Marie More was married 23 of September.
Elyzabeth Sarson was buried 18 November.
William Bennit and Ezabell Salisbury was married 22 of January.
Rocher Bennit and Ezabell Tayler was married 3 of ffebruary.
Sara More was buried 18 of ffebruary.

Anno Do. 1624.

Dugglesse the daughter of Edward Dayle baptized 27 June.
Dorothy the daughter of William Dutton baptized 29 Auguste.
Elizabeth the daughter of William Beddle baptized 12 September.
Henery the sonne of Andrew Jeakes baptized 12 September.
Elizabeth the daughter of William Lincir baptized 14 October.
Anthony the son of Jhon Tayler baptized 7 November.
Thomas the son of George Barwell baptized 12 December.
Edward the son of Henry Beddle bap. 12 December.
Mathew the son of Mathew Sarson bap. 29 December.
Thomas Greene and Katheren Printoppe were maried the 29 of May.

Anna the daughter of William Bennit was bapt. 1 January.
Ellin the daughter Larence Crowshaw Baptized 27 Januarie.
Henry Beddle was buried the 28 of ffebruary.
Elizabeth fflamson was buried the 28 of ffebruary.
Danniell the sonne of francis Oker was Baptized 20 March.
Rychard the sonne of Rychard flecher was Baptized 20 March.

Anno Domini 1625.

Willā Smith was buried . . . . . .
Anne the daughter of . . . was Baptized the . . .
Thomas the sonne of Thomas fflamson was Baptized
Edward Bound and Jonne Bound were maried the 16 May.
Wiliam the sonne of William Breadfilde was Baptized the 5 of June.
Anne the daughter of Thomas Greene was Baptized the 12 June, and was buried the 20 June.
Patience the daughter William Tomlingson was baptized 21 August.
Arthur the sonne Arthur More was baptized 25 September.
Robeart Orton was buried 26 December.
. . . . . the sonn of Thomas Lago was baptized 29 february.

Anno Domini 1626.

Robeart Bound and Anna Halle were maried 12 June.
Anna the daughter of Thomas Plant Baptized 8 July.
Elizabeth the daughter of Thomas Greene Baptized 27 August
John Smith Dorothy Ward were maried 31 August.
Thomas Walle and Dorothy Bedle were maried 1 November.
Elizabeth the daughter Robeart ffarrian Baptized 21 December.
Thomas Harthwell buried 28 December.
Rebecca the daughter of William Benet Baptized 29 Januarie.
Dorothy Berwell buried 15 februarie.
George the sonne Andrew Jekes Baptized 4 March.

John More vicar
George Berwell, John Orton } Churchwardens.

Anno Domini 1627.

Joane Tailer was buried 16 March.

Elizabeth Berforth was buried 5 Aprill.
Alice the daughter of John Tealer was Baptized 1 July.
John Bidle and Elizabeth Rooe was maried.
Govinge the sonne Rychard Vnderwood was Baptized 9 September.
Suanna the daughter Thomas Greene was Baptized 15 of September.
Anna Hichinson buried 18 September.
Luce the daughter Henry Nuton was Baptized the 23 September.
William Buckle of Grindon and Katheren Bedle of Snarston maried 10 October.
Wiliam the sonne of Georg Berwell was Baptized 14 October.
John the sonn of Mathew Sarson was Baptized 11 November.
Thomas Tomlinson the sonne of Wiln i : o (
of Ge Emmet
Desember Blastoke was buried 20 January. [*sic.*]
John the son of Mathew Sarson buried 28 January.
Margery Bound was buried 9 March.
John the sonne of Arthur More was Baptized 9 March.
George the sonne Henry Bedle was Baptized 23 March.

John More vicar { John Orton / Henry flanson } gard.

Anno Domin. 1628.

Roger Benet buried 9 Apriell.
Williā Benet buried 6 Maye.
Anna Bounde buried 15 Maye.
John the sonne Robeart Bound was Baptized 18 Maye.
Elizabeth the daughter Larens Scroshaw was Baptized 18 May.
Mary the daughter of Thomas Plant was Baptized 18 May.
Joseph the son of Richard Blackstocke was bapt. the 17th of July.
Hanna the daughter of Robert fforrian bapt. ye 14th of September.
John Greene was buried the 25th of September.
John the son of John Biddle bapt. the 29th of September.
John the son of Thomas Lago baptized the 29th of Sept : vt supra.
John Moore vicar was buried the 2d of November.
George Potter and Elizabeth Orton were married the 25th day of November.

Henrye the son of Matthew Sarson baptized the 21th of December.
Elizabeth the daughter of Richard Biddle bapt. ye iith of January.
Edward Goodman and Mary Roe were married the 2d day of ffebruary.
John Orton was buried the 25th day of ffebruarye 1628.
John the sone of John Taylor was Bapt. the 8th of March.

Wiłłm ffletcher vicar Wiłłm Orton, Tho : Plant } Churchwardens.

Anno Domini 1629.

Dorothye the daughter of Andrew Jackes was bapt. the 6th of Aprill 1629.
. . . . . and Isbel Bennit were married the 26th of Aprill 1629.
John B . . was buried the 25th day of June.
Robert Barford & Elizabeth Biddle were married the 24th day of June.
John Barton and Isabell Bennit were married the 24th of August.
John Andrew alias Tomlinson was buried the 4th day of September.
Robert Roe was buried the 25th day of August.
Richard the sone of Laurence Croshaw was bapt. the 15th of November.
William the sone of Wiłłm ffletcher was bapt. the . .th day of December Anno 1629.
Sara the daughter of Thomas Plant bapt. the same [day.]
[Ro]bert the son of John Drakly was bapt. the 28th day of ffebr.

Anno Dom̄ : 1630.

Richard the son of Robert fforrian was bapt. the 4th day of Aprill.

A Register of all the Christenings, Marriages, and Burialls for this yeare of our Lorde God 1630 in which

yeare of our Lorde God I John Hodges M^{r} of Arts of Excester Colledge in Oxforde was inducted into the Vicaridge of Shackerstone, vpon the 10th of July.

Nathaniel Wallplate
John Deacon } Churchwardens.

Thomas the sonne of John Biddle was baptised the 15 of August.
Joane the Wife of Richard Butler was Buried the 5 of September.
Susanna the daughter of Mr John Hodgetts Viccar was baptised the 6 of Decemb : 1630.
Thomas ffarrian
& Anna Orton } were married the 24 of January.
Joane Plante Widdow was buried the 31 of January.
Elizabeth Deeping was buried the 10 of ffebruary.

Copied from the original Register now in the Bodleian Library.

W. H. Allnutt.

March 23*rd*, 1881.

Publications of the

Leicestershire Architectural and Archæological Society.

Its Transactions (Illustrated), Vols. I. to IV. inclusive: Four Parts in each volume: Price of each Part, 3s. 6d.; to Members, 2s. 6d.; of each Volume, 16s., or to Members, 10s. 6d.

Its Transactions, Vol. V., Parts 1, 2, 3, price 3s. 6d. each; to Members, 2s. 6d. each.

Reports and Papers of the Associated Societies (Illustrated) for the years 1850 to 1855, and for the years 1864 to 1879 inclusive, 5s. each.

Leicester: Samuel Clarke.

Just published, (250 copies only) in Fcap. 4to., Cloth, Red Edges, 176 pp., with 40 Woodcuts, Price 10s. 6d.

The Church Bells of Rutland,

THEIR INSCRIPTIONS, TRADITIONS, AND PECULIAR USES, WITH CHAPTERS ON BELLS AND BELLFOUNDERS,

BY

THOMAS NORTH, F.S.A.,

Hon. Mem. and Hon. Sec. of the Leicestershire Architectural and Archæological Society, Hon. Member of the Derbyshire Archæological and Natural History Society.

Also by the same Author a similar Work (470 pp., with 125 Woodcuts, price 21s., and of which a few copies only are on sale) on

The Church Bells of Northamptonshire.

Also by the same Author, and now ready for the Press, (about 950 pp., with about 200 Illustrations,)

THE CHURCH BELLS

OF THE

COUNTY AND CITY OF LINCOLN,

THEIR FOUNDERS, INSCRIPTIONS, TRADITIONS, AND PECULIAR USES,

WITH A BRIEF

HISTORY OF CHURCH BELLS IN LINCOLNSHIRE,

CHIEFLY FROM ORIGINAL AND CONTEMPORANEOUS RECORDS.

[*For a full Prospectus of this Work, of which 200 copies only will be printed, apply by post to* THOMAS NORTH, F.S.A., *Ventnor, Isle of Wight.*]

SOME OPINIONS ON MR. NORTH'S BELL BOOKS.

"Thanks to the devotion of inquirers like Mr. North, we shall, in course of time, possess accounts of all the bells in England, but no compiler is likely to surpass Mr. North in care and diligence. This is saying a good deal, seeing what excellent volumes have been devoted to the subject."—*Athenæum.*

"One after another the bell lists of the different counties are being collected and published, and none of them better than those which have been undertaken by Mr. North."—*Notes and Queries.*

"Must be studied by the historian of English manners."—*Standard.*

"An unexpectedly pleasant book."—*Saturday Review.*

"We recommend [our readers] to see for themselves how excellent a work of the kind it is."—*Guardian.*

"And we may take this opportunity of expressing an earnest hope that the author will be helped and encouraged in his much greater work on the Church Bells of Lincolnshire by a goodly number of subscribers, without whose help no books of this kind can be brought out. Lincolnshire will, we believe, afford a greater amount of interesting matter than any of the counties Mr. North has hitherto undertaken, and it ought also to afford him a greater number of supporters."—*Archæological Journal* for 1880, p. 448.

"We are happy to know that Mr. North, who is *facile princeps* as a chronicler of church bells, is engaged on the great county of Lincoln."—*Church Bells.*

"We shall gladly welcome the work on the Church Bells of Lincolnshire which he (Mr. North) has in hand."—*Athenæum.*

"We must not omit to call attention to the engravings—some of these are of great beauty."—*Academy.*

"I think your book a very complete and thorough account of our Northants bells."—*The Very Rev. Lord Alwyne Compton.*

"The beau-ideal of what such a book should be."—*The Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, F.S.A.*

LEICESTER: SAMUEL CLARKE.

20.

TRANSACTIONS

OF

THE LEICESTERSHIRE

Architectural and Archæological

SOCIETY.

VOL. V.—PART IV.

LEICESTER:
SAMUEL CLARKE, 5, GALLOWTREE GATE.
1882.

Price Three Shillings and Sixpence.

[If sent in error to be returned to Mr. Samuel Clarke, 5, Gallowtree Gate, Leicester.]

GENEALOGY COLLECTION

TRANSACTIONS

OF

THE LEICESTERSHIRE

Architectural and Archæological

SOCIETY.

VOL. V.—PART IV.

LEICESTER:
SAMUEL CLARKE, 5, GALLOWTREE GATE.
1882.

Contents.

PAGE.

Somerby Parish Register, 1601 to 1715 273

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 31st May, 1880 284

The Last Verses of Scott, by Dr. Dickson 286

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 26th July, 1880 292

Wall Painting in Lutterworth Church, by Mrs. Thursby . . . 293

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 27th September, 1880 296

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 29th November, 1880 296

The Ancient Brasses in Loughborough Church, by Rev. W. G. Dimock Fletcher 298

Annual Meeting, 31st January, 1881 300

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 28th March, 1881 305

The Ruding Diary, by the late James Thompson, F.R.H.S., and Thomas North, F.S.A. 306

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 30th May, 1881 319

Grant of Arms to Halford Family, by Mr. Weatherhead . . . 320

Notes on Leicestershire MSS. in the Public Record Office and Our National Libraries, by the Rev. W. G. Dimock Fletcher . . 324

Summer General Meeting at Oxford 341

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 25th July, 1881 341

PAGE.

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 26th September, 1881 341

Notes on a MS. of the Fourteenth Century, by the Rev. Canon Pownall, F.S.A. 343

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 28th November, 1881 344

The Ethnography of Leicestershire, an unfinished Essay, by the late Mr. James Thompson, F.R.H.S. 346

SOMERBY PARISH REGISTER, 1601 TO 1715.

The following is a complete copy of this Register (see page 236) made from the original in the British Museum (Add. MS. 24, 802) by the Rev. W. G. Dimock Fletcher, M.A., of Oxford. The entries are here given in chronological order; but those of events, other than Baptisms, Marriages, and Burials, already given in pages 236-240, are not repeated. Many of the entries are so faded and illegible, that it was found impossible to transcribe them.

1601.

Isaacke Greene a son of Henery Greene & his wife baptised December 26 day.

1602.

Michaell Goodbye was baptised 14 of June.
Catherine Robartes was baptised 29 of June.
Leonarde Greene and An Duckworthe were mariede the 27 of August.
William Harkette was baptisede : 19 : Septembr.
Thomas Clughe was baptised : 26 : September.
William Greene was baptised : 15 : October.
George Harris was baptised : 16 : October.
Margræte Wilsene was baptisede : 18 : October.
Charles Clarke was baptised 25 October.
Thomas barnes was baptisede 15 December.
Thomas Simsone was buriede 18 December.
Ann Greene was baptised 6 Januarye.
ffrancis chorse was baptised : 6 februarye.
Anthony Eglefeilde was baptised 14 febru.
Jane Steele was baptisede 17 februarye.
John Jarartt (*or* Yarroll?)

1603.

Matthew Knappe son of francis Knappe and Anne his wife. Baptized februarye 24th day 1603 of Burrow.
ffrancis Mengroe was baptised April 21 Day 1663.

1627.

ffrancis Eglefeild son of Thomas Eglefeild and fanny his wife . . . . . Aprill 12.
Thomas . . . . . son of George . . . . . &
of Elizabeth his wife Bur . . . . .

Chrystenings anno Dom. 1631.

Edward Bollard was buried June 24.
John Green was buryed—July 24.
Thomas Green son of Will : Green was baptized Sept. 18.
Antony Lee & Ann Killingly both of this parish were married Sept . . . . .
Matthew Knap son of Mathew baptized Octob. 18, of Burrow.
Jane daughter of Georg Smith baptized Octob. 19.
Eliza Good widow was buryed Octob. 20.
Thomas Orson of Osbornly in Lancashire & Eliz : Askew were marryed Jan. 19.
John Barsby son of Anthony was baptized. [*sic.*]

[1632.]

George Trigg son of Will : Trigg was baptized May 28, 1632.
Richard Key of this parish & Mary Browne of Burrough marryed May 31.
Ric : Hare of Exon and Margaret Hacket of this parish marryed June 2.
Ric : Lewis & Alice Knowles both of this parish were marryed July 19, 1632.
Samuell Reeves son of John Reeves was baptized Aug. 24.
Elizabeth daughter of William Peale was baptized Sept. 16.
Eliz : daughter of W. Peale dyed Octob. 17.
Prudence Lamb daughter of Lyonell Lamb was baptized Novemb. 1.
old Alice Hill widow was buryed Decemb. 10.
old Thomas Lee was buryed Decemb. 20.
Castor Smith son of Edward Smith was baptized Decemb. 21.
Joyce daughter of Thomas Smith was baptized Decemb. 27.
Margaret ye Bastard of Ann Dalby was baptized Jan. 1. by Roger Blewit.
Isabell & Jane daughters of Robert Barnes baptized Jan. 7.
Sara daughter to Thomas Lane was baptized Jan. 13.
Margaret daughter of Thomas Sharpe was buryed Jan. 31.
Ann daughter of Tho : Orson was baptized March 3.
Eliz. daughter of Thomas Sharp baptized March.
William Knap son of Will : Knap of Burrow was baptized March 17.

[1633.]

Richard, son of Richard Keye of Burrough was baptized May 12, 1633.
Robert Munck of Empingham in ye county of Rutland & Ellen Loe of Somerby were married June 20.
Isaack Green & Alice Hill both of this parish were married July 28.
George Billington son of Gregory Billington was baptized Aug. 11.
St. John Adcock son of Tho : Adcock was baptized Octob. 20.
Thomas Green son of Leonard Green was buryed October 21.
Jane Smith wife of George Smith was buryed Novemb. 8 (?).
Ann Green wife to Hen. Green was buryed Novemb. 23.
Will : Hill was buryed Novemb. 23.
Widow Gond was buryed Novemb. 27.
Mary daughter of Ellis Burton was buryed Decemb. 16.
Old Robert Birdig was buryed Decemb. 15.
Elizabeth daughter of Matthew Knap was baptized Decemb. 14.
Susan Yates wife of Th : Yates was buryed Decemb. 15.
Georg son of Will : Smith was baptized Decemb. 22.
Georg son of John Smith was baptized Decemb. 22.
Casper Egglefield son of Thomas was buryed Decemb. 29.
St. John Barton son of Will : Barton was baptized Jan. 14.
Margaret Hacket daughter of Will : Hacket was bapt. Feb. 9.
George son of Thomas Bond was baptized March 2.
George Gond son of Thomas was buryed March 6.
Will : Chaip was buryed March 2.

[1634.]

Jane Hacket wife of Tho : Hacket was buryed April 17. 1634.
Isabell Barnes daughter of Arthur Barnes was buryed May 12.
William Gond son of Will : Gond was baptized July 6.
Ann Green daughter of Isaak & Elizabeth Green was baptized July 13.
Richard Sharp son of Ric. & Alice Sharp was baptized Aug. 3.
Margaret Green daughter of Jane Green widow was buryed Sept. 13.
Robt Lamb son of Lionell & Francis Lamb was buryed Sept. 18.
Old John Sharp was buried Sept. 20.

Andrew Dent of ye parish of Melton & Elizabeth Smith of this parish were maried Sep. 29.
John Hatter son of Will: & Eliz: Hatter was baptized Novemb. 2.
John Neson son of Tho: & Eliz: was baptized Decemb. 7.
Lionell son of Lionell & Francis Lambe was baptized Decemb. 10, 1634.
Ann daughter of Tho: & Prudence Reily was buryed—Decemb. 12.
Will: Reeve son of John & Eliz. Reeve was baptized feb. 22.
Richard Smith son of Edw: & Alice Smith was baptized March 8.
Margaret daughter of Georg. & Eliz: Rob'ts was baptized March 25.

1635.

Georg Blacke son of Mattew Blacke was buryed April 2.
Tho: Roes & Elizabeth Adams were marryed April 14.
Charles Roberts & Mary Lee of ye parish of Som̄ marryed April 14.
Thomas Levis son of Rich: & Dorothy Levis was bapt. Apr: 19.
Elizabeth the wife of William Roberts was buried Apr. 28.
old Thomas Yates was buryed.
John the son of Thomas & Eliz. Good was baptized May: 3.
Georg Burton & Jane Reeve both of Somerby were marryed June 4.
George Walker & Battolme Walker both of Somerby were marryed June 4.
Mary the daughter of Thomas Egglefeild was buryed June 10.
matrimonium contraxerunt Joēs Inkley & Katerina Greene Junij 27.
Anna filia Willielmi et Annæ Greene baptizata fuit Junij 29.
Anna Gigger vidua sepulta fuit Julij 26.
ffrancis son of Francisci & Joannæ Wats baptizatus erat Augusti 23.
[*sic.*] baptizatus erat Septemb^{r} 6.
Georgius Smith & Anna Green conjunct. fuerunt Sept. 30.
Elizabetha uxor Oliveli Porter sepulta fuit Octob. 10.
Georgius Harris & Margareta Clarke maritati fuerunt Novemb. 3.
Elizabetha (?) filia Gregorij & Jese Byllington baptizata fuit Decemb. . .
Georgius filius Andrij & Elizabethæ Dent baptizatus fuit Jan. 9.

Mary daughter to Richard & Mary Key was bapt. feb. 21.
Anna Roberts vidua, & St. John Barton filius Gulielmi et Katherinæ Barton sepeliebantur martij 12°.

1636.

Johañes filius Thomæ et Saræ Lane neahero baptizatus erat March 27.
Elius filius Georgij et Janæ Burton husbandman baptizatus fuit. Apr. 3.
Thomas filius Gergij et Battolinæ Walker tayler baptizatus fuit. Apr. 6.
Valerius Goodacre laborer sepeliebatur Apr. 13.
Henricus filius Willielmi et Isabellæ Smith baptizabatur Apr. 24.
Thomas Hacket weaver et Alice Hill widow the banns three matrimonium contraxerunt Apr. 25.
Maria filia Caroli & Mariæ Roberts baptizabatur Apr. 25.
Anna filia Jōis & ffranciscæ Smith pastoris baptizabatur May 22.
Willielmus filius Georgij & Annæ Smith agricolæ baptizabatur July 24.
Margareta filia Georgij Bass operarij, 26 annorum et virgo maritata fuit Gulielmo Roberts vidui et weaver utrique hujus parochiæ the banns three Julij 31.
Maria filia Mabellæ et Thomæ Smith operarij baptizabatur Augusti 7°.
Maria filia Elizab : et Isaaki Greene baptizabatur Augusti 27°. et sepeliebatur.
Georgius filius Annæ et Richardi Sharp textoris baptizabatur Augusti 28.
Maria filia Aliciæ et Radulphi Smalleye utricularij baptizabatur Sept. 11.
Richardus filius Mariæ et Roberti Yates operarij baptizabatur Octob. 9.
Elizabetha filia Janæ Greene viduæ virgo 20 annorū et Georgius Trig filius Thomæ Trig candelarij 24 annorū matrimoniu contraxerunt the banns thrice Octob. 11.
Margareta filia Elizabethæ et Willielmi Trigge agricolæ bapt. Octob. 23.
Johañes filius Rebeckæ et Jōie Seton coakeman baptizabatur Octob. 30.
Maria filia Elizabethæ et Thomæ Sharpe agricolæ baptizabatur Nov. 9.
Jōes filius Rebeckæ et Jōis Seton sepeliebatur Novemb. 8.
Setha filia Margaretæ et Oliveri Stringer labourer baptizabatur Novemb. 17.

Eme filia Franciscæ et Lionelli Lambe Clerici baptizabatur Nov. 24.
Setha filia Margaretæ et Oliveri Stringer sepeliebatur Novemb. 19.
Tho: filius Elizabethæ et Thomæ Gad pastoris sepeliebatur Nov. 25.
Tho: Egglefeild [*sic.*]
preston vidua sepeliebatur Decem. [*sic.*]
Baker vidua sepeliebatur Jan. 2. [*sic.*]

Christnings 1637.

Jōes filius Elizabethæ et Thomæ Gad pastoris bapt. Apr. 16.
Zacharius filius Elizabethæ et Antonij Barsbye agricolæ bapt. Junij 4.
Joisa filia I et Edmundi Palmer baptizabatur Aug. 20.
Ann filia Battolinæ et Georgij Walker vestiarij baptizabatur Octob. 8.

Matrimonio contracti.

Richardus Atton de burgo Leic. laneus et cœlebs filius [*sic.*] et Isabellæ Tompson spinster et soluta sedecem annorū matrimoniū contraxerunt Octobris secundo filia Hen: Trapsen agricolæ.

Burialls.

Galfridus filius Samuelis & Smally pastor sepultus erat Junij 25.

Anno Dn̄j 1638. Christenings.

Marie the daughter of William Smith and Isabell his wife was baptized Maij sixto 1638.
Elizabeth daughter of Thomas Hill . . . . . wife was baptized the xijth. of Aprill 1638.
Mary daughter of Wiłłm (?) Smith ffelmonger was baptized the vjth of May 1638.
. . . . Daughter of William Knapp of Burrough Sheppard was baptized the 30th . . . . 1638.
[Here follow several illegible entries.]

[1639.]

Memorandū that Rebecca the daughter of Thomas Mulshoe and Elizabethe of Burrough in the pish of Somerbie Esquire, was baptized at Burrough the xxjth day of Julij

1639 by Consent of Tho: Brode Vicar of Somerbie at ye entreatie of the said Mr. Mulshoe; As also that the said Mrs. Mulshoe was Churched at Burrough the xxth daie of August following by the same Consent and entreaty as aforesaid onlie being verie weak & sicklie & not able to goe to ye Church. She was Churched at her owne house by me

Tho Brode Vicar.

Marriages.

Tho Brud.

John.

[Here follow some illegible entries. The names of Osborn, Cuff, Burton, &c., may still be traced.]

Año Dñi 1640. Christenings.

Thomas son of Wiłłm Huigh (?) Laborer and Alice his wife baptized the 24th daie of Aprill.
Mary daughter of Edmond Smith ffelmonger & Alice his wife baptized May 3°.
Eliezer son of Anthonie Bousby yeom: and Elizabeth his wife bapt. Maij 24°.
An daughter of Jasper Bridges yeom: & Elizabeth his wife baptized Juñ 19°.
An daughter of Wiłłm Roberts weaver, & Margarett his wife baptized Decembr. 3°.
Ruth daughter of George Smith husb. & An his wife baptized Januar. 3°.
Margarett daughter of Thomas Goode sheppard and Elizabeth his wife baptized Januar. 7°.
Grace daughter of Edward Stevens sheppard and Elizabeth his wife baptized Januar. 20°.
Thomas son of Charles Roberts weaver & Mary his wife baptized Januar. 28°.
Sara daughter of Wiłłm Tompson yeom: & Ann his wife baptized Januar. 28°.
An daughter of Wiłłm Ratcliffe woolcomber and Mary his wife baptized ffebr. 7°.
Thomas son of Edmund Pulmer (?) carpenter and Margery his wife baptized April 18°.

Marriages.

Wiłłm Ratcliffe woollcomber & Mary Cleter spinster married April 30mo.
Mathew Knapp weaver and Alice Tyler spinster married Junij 3°.

Nicholas Picke yeom. and Jane Greene widdow married Marcij 10mo.

Burialls.

Mary Bridges widdow buried Maij 8o.
Thomas son of Wiłłm Greene yeoman and Ann his wife buried Maij 2do.
Mary Sharpe widdow buried Maij 25o.
Wiłłm Peale Laborer buried Maij 26to.
Elizabeth daughter of Edmond Smith & Alice his wife buried Maij 30mo.

John Yarwell his Book.

1643. births.

George Roberts son of Thomas Roberts & Isabell his wife borne August 25 Baptized Auguste the 29th 1643.

A certificate of the christenings, mariges, and burials in Somerby in the Denery of frambland for the year 1712 untill Lady Day 1713.

Christenings for ye year 1712.

Mary the daughter of Robert tomblin and of Elizabeth his wife was baptized March ye 30.
Ann the daughter of Mr. Willcox Green and of Ann his wife was baptized July ye 2 day.
Richard the son of William Smith shepard and of Ann his wife was baptized July ye 6 day.
Matthew the son of Matthew Danzey and of Martha his wife was baptized August ye 10.
William Plivary the son of Edward Plivary and of Ruth his wife was baptized August ye 17.
William the son of William Middows and of Ann his wife was baptized December ye 3 day.
John the son of John Baxter and of Elizabeth his wife was baptized December ye 7.
Thomas the son of Thomas Smith and of Elizabeth his wife was baptized January ye 26.
Sarah the daughter of John Danzey and of Sarah his wife was baptized February ye 15.

Burials 1712.

Isbell Sharpe widdow buried march ye 26.
Susannah the daughter of Thomas Burgidge Buryed August ye 16 day.

Ann Markley buried October the 28 day.
Ann Adcock widdow buried December ye 20 day.
Ann Adcock the wife of William labourer buried December ye 20 day.

Mariages 1712.

William Collier exciseman marryed June ii.
John Underwood married July ye 21.
Thomas Mason and Elizabeth Smith maried January the 13 day.

Christenings 1713.

Mary the daughter of Thomas Rase and of Britannia his wife was baptized May ye 11.
Robert the son of John Beeby and of Mary his wife was baptized July the 12.
Thomas the son of John Walton and of Ann his wife was baptized July the 26.
Thomas the son of Thomas Burbidge and of Elizabeth his wife was baptized August ye 9.
Mary the daughter of M^{r}. Wilkox Green and of Ann his wife was baptized October the 3 day.
Susanah the daughter of Richard Sharpe and of Deana (?) his wife was baptized October the 12 day.
Martha the daughter of William Drawnate and of Mary his wife was baptized November ye 2 day.
Dinah the daughter of Robert Burbidge and of Ann his wife was baptized November ye 3.
Lydia the daughter of Francis Beeby and of franceis his wife was baptized December ye 27.
Mary the daughter of Matthew Daurey and of Martha his wife was baptized December ye 27. (?)
Elizabeth the daughter of John Barrs and of Elizabeth his wife was baptized December ye 27.
William the son of John Scarborough and of Constance his wife was baptized February the 8 day.
Thomas the son of William Widdows and of Ann his wife was baptized february the 10 day.

Marriages 1713.

William Oldham and Jane Roberts marryed June the 1.
Robert Corner maried June the 29.
Solomon Smith Soildeir and Mary Beeby maried September 20.

John Leeson and Elizabeth Cannor maried November 28.
Robert Barrs (?) and Alce Cooper maried Jan. 14.
Edward Gedeby and Susanah Simpson maried March 13.

Christenings 1714.

Mary the daughter of Henery Riley and of Catharine his wife was baptized Aprill 4.
George the son of George Billington and of Elizabeth his wife was baptised April 18.
William the son of William Calents and Dorothy his wife was baptized May the 3 day.
Elizabeth the daughter of Robert Swift and Mary his wife was baptized May 9 day.
John the son of John Staton and of Mary his wife was baptized June the 14 day.
Hannah the daughter of John Black and of Ann his wife was baptised August the 29 day.
Margaret the daughter of Mr. William Green and of Ann his wife was baptized November the 3 day.
Richard the son of John Baxter and of Eliza his wife was baptized November the 7.
William the son of William Smith and of Ann his wife was baptized December the 19 day.
John the son of Thomas Smith and of Elizabeth his wife was baptized January ye 9 day.
Peter the son of Jane Stary widdow baptized January the 20 day.

Mariages 1714.

John Rickard and Catharine Walter maried March the 27.
John Scarborough and Mary Robisson maried March the 28.
Joseph Boss and Elizabeth Oldam maried Aprill the 17.
. . . . . Carter and Mary Tayher maried July ye 5.
James Bradshaw and Elizabeth Fatherstone maried August the 22 day.
Christopher Healy and Elizabeth Poudvil maried October the 25 day.
Thomas Ward and Mary Robison maried November 25.

1714.

Burials for the year 1714.

William the son of John Scarborough and of Constant his wife was buried Aprill 29.

Dorothy the daughter of Thomas Goddard and of Grace his wife was buried June ye 31 [*sic.*]
John the son of John Scarborough and of Constant his wife was buried July ye 16 day.
. . . . . the son of Matthew Dawisey and of Martha his wife was buried July ye 16 day.
. . . . . Noble labourer buried July ye 21.
Mary Cantt widdow buried August ye 9 day.
Mr. William Green patron buried October ye 29.
Thomas Bairs labourer buried November ye 5.
John Stary labourer buried December ye 6 day.

Christenings 1715.

William the son of John and Mary Beeby baptized June the 2 day.
John the son of Matthew Bairey and Martha his wife was baptised July the 3 day.
John the son of Robert barns and Alce his wife was baptized July the 10 day.
Mary the daughter of Richard Read and of Elizabeth his wife was baptized August 7.
John and Ann the son and daughter of John Walton and Ann his wife was baptized Septemb^{r}. 5.
Thomas the son of francis Beeby and franceis his wife was baptized August the 28 day.
Francis the son of William Midows and of Ann his wife was baptized November ye 1 day.
Collie the son of George billington and of Elizabeth his wife was baptized November ye 2 . . .
Elieneo the daughter of Henery Riley and Catherina his was baptized January ye 1 day.
Martha the daughter of Mr. Willcox Green born January 29.

Thos
Alick
Skeag.

Mariages 1715.

Thomas Walker and Elizabeth Ward maried June 7.
Mr. Daniel Jackson and Mary Rocock maried July the 10 day.
William Wallis and Mary Bradshaw married Septem^{r} 4.
John Wilkins and Mary Tompson maried September 5.
Beniamen ffawrit and Christiana Wagon November the 3.
Hasting Dawson of Great Dalby and Alce Sharp maried Novemb. 28.

John Scampton and Jane Walton maried January ye 14.
John Cole and Mary Blower maried January ye 26.

Burials 1715.

Peter the son of Jane Stary widdow buried Aprill ye 21.
John and Ann twin sons and daughter of John and Ann Walton buried September ye 19.
Mary land daughter of Thomas land buried Sept[ember] 7.
Mr. George Chiseldine buried December ye 16.
Ann Allin widdow buried January the 1 day.
Elizabeth Dage widdow buried January 5 day.
Elizabeth the wife of Thomas Kirk of Sison buried Feberuary the 1 day.
Martha the daughter of Mr. Willson Godda: buried february 9.

May 31*st*, 1880.

The Rev. Canon Pownall, F.S.A., in the chair.

The following gentlemen were elected members of the Society: Joseph Arnall, Esq., J. Barclay, Esq., M.D., and the Rev. C. Eicott.

The following antiquities, &c., were exhibited:—

By Mr. J. Hunt: An iron bell, about two oz. in weight, found in a field at Thurnby, about eighteen inches from the surface; a medal of a religious character found at Kilby; a sword guard, *temp.* Elizabeth; an ornamental iron handle apparently of an old chest; an antique ornamented lock for two keys, one a barrel key and the other a square spindle with very curiously arranged wards and bolts; three other locks ornamented with ingeniously arranged wards and bolts, all three locks of the early seventeenth century character; two large old keys of the fifteenth century; and a small horse breastplate of leather ornamented with brass, of an Oriental character.

By Mr. G. C. Bellairs: A large thumb ring of solid gold, weighing about two sovereigns and a half, without jeweller's or plate marks. It was ornamented by five oval medallions, very boldly and deeply cut apparently by the hand, representing the emblems of the passion. 1. The *Ecce Homo.* 2. The feet crossed and pierced. 3. The cross, the crown, and the three nails. 4. The hands pierced. 5. The pillar and cord, surmounted by the cock

and the spear on one side, the sponge and hyssop on the other. These medallions were joined by a simple but effective ornament. The opinion of the members present differed as to the date.

By Captain Whitby: A poll book of the 17th December, 1719, for electing a knight in Parliament for the county of Leicester, in the room of Sir Thomas Cave, Bart., deceased. The candidates were Lord William Manners and Francis Mundy, Esq. The book belongs to Mr. Hames, whose family formerly occupied a large house in the High-street, where the Judges of Assize were formerly provided with lodgings. Captain Whitby also exhibited the accounts for the expenses of the Judges at the Leicester Assizes, beginning Lent, 1812, and ending with "The Lamas" Assize, 1814.

By Mr. Joseph Young: Two silver pennies of Stephen, countermarked with a cross on the obverse, which has the effect of partially defacing the king's image. The conjecture is that this cross was added to the die by Stephen's opponents (the partisans of the Empress Maud), with a view of using Stephen's ready coined money, *vide* "*Numismatic Chronicle*" (New Series), Vol. ii. p. 189.

By Dr. Barclay (through the Rev. C. H. Wood) The following articles of plate: two seal-headed spoons, dates 1590; six trefoil-headed spoons, 1691-6, 1708; two Scotch table spoons of 1695; one table and two dessert spoons, rat tailed Britannia standard of 1716; one caudle saucepan, Britannia standard of 1722; one table spoon embossed 1749; and one fine Scotch soup ladle of 1765.

By Mr. W. J. Freer: A very handsome tankard, richly ornamented in *repoussé*. The plate marks were rendered undecipherable by repairs. The tail end of the handle, now ornamented with a shield, was originally a whistle.

By the Rev. C. H. Wood: A silver cream ewer, dated 1784; and a handsome pair of silver shoe-buckles, dated 1779.

By Captain Ashby (through Canon Pownall): A bronze celt found at Naseby, about two feet beneath the surface, by a labourer when draining, on Tuesday, the 25th ult. It measured in length three and a quarter inches, in breadth about three quarters of an inch. In form, while one end was scoop-shaped like a chisel, the other widening out terminated as a little adze, thus giving the tool a double use. Hitherto there is no record of bronze implements found at Naseby, though at Farndon, a few miles distant, where there exists certain ancient British remains, such have been discovered. Within the last few years a bronze spear head was found there. These objects in bronze date from a period earlier than the Roman occupation of the country. How long before no one can say, but here, as elsewhere, the use of brass preceded that of iron, as stone preceded brass. An idea prevailed formerly that wounds made by a weapon of brass healed sooner than those inflicted by iron. "The woundes given with brasse be lesse hurtful, as in which mettall there is a medicinable virtue to heale: according as

Macrobius reporteth out of Aristotle."—*Camden's Britannia*, 1637, p. 188.

Rev. Canon Pownall also exhibited two "rounds" of brass, about the size of, and somewhat resembling, an ordinary livery button, only not having any shank attached behind. On the upper surface of the round, the Royal Arms of England, &c., quartered on a shield as usual, were represented in coloured enamel of rather common sort. On one side of the shield was the Rose of England: on the other the Thistle of Scotland. Above the shield, on one round were the king's initials, I.R.; on the other, C.R.. "These curious relics of the seventeenth century," observed Mr. Pownall, "are entirely new to me; and, not until recently, when I had the opportunity of mentioning them to Mr. Augustus Franks, the Director of the Society of Antiquaries of London, did I learn their use in that day. It seems that much in the same way as coins have been let into silver tankards, punch bowls, &c., so rounds, such as these, were then inserted into the bottoms of pewter vessels or dishes, presumably to mark ownership. These two seem to have so marked utensils of the Royal household, forming an ornamental as well as effective warrant that the utensils were part of His Majesty's kitchen property. Several dishes, with the rounds still remaining in them, are to be seen at the British Museum. Mr. Franks has never met with any which are connected with other reigns than those of James and Charles the First."

The Rev. J. B. Dickson, LL.D., read the following Paper on:—

THE LAST VERSES OF SCOTT,

Written in 1832, and recently discovered.

In themselves the lines I shall read are, in some respects, slight, and in form they are certainly defective and faulty. Intrinsically worthy of Scott, however, they throw fresh light on his amiable character, and possess a literary interest for all, especially for a Society like this which values every relic of a great name, links the past with the present, and, refusing to live always in the light of common day, honours the memory of the man who raised the dead ages to life again, clothed them in their own garments, and set them before the eyes of his countrymen and the world. After reading the verses the satisfaction I had at first experienced passed into sadness in presence of the unfinished task, and of the too mortal workman falling before it. *Mortalia me tangunt.* Far advanced in the evening of his busy day, stricken with a mortal malady, Scott longed for home with that "heimweh," as the Germans call it, to which he was subject. Nor was the home for which he pined unworthy of his affection or unfit to receive the dying breath of

the "Antiquary"—"that curious romance in stone and lime," "every outline copied from some old baronial edifice in Scotland, every roof and window blazoned with Clan bearings or the lion rampant gules, or the heads of the ancient Stuart Kings." It was in this mood, then, envying Goethe because he had died at home, that "the most voluminous author of his time" thought, as he well might, his pen laid aside for ever. But no, swayed by that inate chivalry—so marked a feature in the man—he roused his dormant energies, if only for a moment, to gratify a fair accomplished woman by some lines from his own hand. Taking down his harp, which had long been silent, he threw his trembling fingers across its chords. The lamp was flickering; it would soon go out; but he would trim it as best he could. The shadows were gathering about, and narrowing down the once great aisle of light that lamp cast around it, but he might still see, however dimly, to pen a last melodious farewell. A lady's wish or even whim had ever for Sir Walter Scott the nature of a command, for him, the knight *sans peur et sans reproche*, the Bayard of literature. It was this high and generous temper that breathed such delicacy and charm around the character of his heroines, rivalled only by the feminine creations of Shakespeare. Under his somewhat heavy and homely features, poor, if not harsh, voice and limping gait, lived and glowed the soul of as perfect a gentleman as ever graced the highest circles of the land, and gladdened the cottages of the humble but honest poor. A remarkable group of fair accomplished women stood around him. Foremost and earliest among these was a lady who has for us some local interest —Miss Maclean Clephane, of Torloisk, in the Island of Mull, of whom Lockhart writes, "She was the youngest, and gayest, and cleverest." This accomplished daughter of a most accomplished mother—cousin to my lamented friend, Miss Lundin, of the ancient Norman house of Lundin, of Auchtermavunie, in Fifeshire, one of whose ancestors, Sir Richard de Lundin, fought on the English side at the battle of Stirling Bridge—was one of three sisters celebrated not only for their beauty and noble presence, but for acquirements then little known, if appreciated, in the Western Isles. Accompanied by Scott, Lord Compton, son and heir to the first Marquis of Northampton, visited the Maclean Clephanes in their island home, and the result was the eldest daughter became Lady Compton and afterwards Marchioness of Northampton. When doing duty as one of the preachers in the Mission conducted by the present Bishop of Peterborough at Northampton, my attention was called to a volume of poems on the drawing room table of the late excellent Mr. Saunders, Rector of Moulton—it proved to be written by this noble lady. Although very tired—for I had been preaching all day, and it takes a great deal of that sort of thing to tire me—

I have preached two and forty times in nine days—I went through many of its pages, and was delighted to find them teeming with sparkling fancies, keen wit and vivid poetic feeling, charmingly framed and finished. The three sisters, with only one of whom, Madame de Norman, was I personally acquainted, now sleep side by side in the churchyard of Castle Ashby. Under the guidance of Lady Northampton's son, an honorary member of this Society, and now, I am glad to say, Dean of Worcester and Prolocutor of the Lower House of the Convocation of Canterbury, I had lately the melancholy satisfaction of visiting the last resting place of these attached and valued friends of Scott, with whose praises the ear of my early day had been filled. And thus it came about that as Mrs. Maclean Clephane and Lady Northampton were among the first, so the beautiful Russian lady, the Countess of Wollenluss, was the last of the circle of gifted and fair women that inspired the lays and burned incense before the shrine of Scott. The poem—if such it can be called—written by request of this lady, is evidently a first rough draft of ideas rather than of words. Found in Sir Walter's apartment at Rome, and carefully preserved, it lately came into the possession of a friend of mine by whom it was sent to me. It is now in Scott's own handwriting in the Library of the Berwickshire Naturalists' Club. (The Club won't part with the original even for a day). The only possible or probable allusion to it I find in the last volume of *Scott's Life*, page 367, where Sir William Gell, who was Scott's constant companion in Rome, thus writes, "I particularly remember a remark which proved the kindness of his heart. A lady requested him to do something which was very disagreeable to him. He was asked whether he had consented? He replied 'yes.' He was then questioned why he had agreed to do what was so inconvenient to him, 'Why,' said he, 'as I am now good for nothing else I think it as well to be good natured.'" These words of Gell refer, I believe, to our verses, written with difficulty and reluctance as the shadow drew near. Here they are, and as they have been already printed I am absolved from all responsibility:—

"Lady, they say, thy native land,
Unlike this clime of fruits and flowers,
Loves like the minstrel's northern strand
The sterner share of nature's powers.

"Even beauty's spell—enchanting charm,
Decays in the decaying bowers,
Until even you may fail to warm
The cold blood of my darkening hours.

"Mortals in vain—so says the word,
Seek grapes from briars, from thistles corn,
Say, shall kind nature still accord
Fruit from a withered Scottish thorn?

"Time once there was, alas, but now
That time returns not from the main;
The shades that dreaming dials throw
Proceed, but pass not back again.

"Yet in this land of lengthening day,
Where April basks in Autumn's glow,
Awakened by the genial ray
Thoughts of past visions strive to blow.

"The blood grows warm; the nerves expand,
The stiffened fingers take the pen,
And,"

The above lines are slightly altered from the original, and correctly rhymed. The changes made are purely mechanical. All the ideas are Scott's, but here is the original, not, I am sorry to say, in Scott's handwriting, which I had hoped to show you—*n'importe*.

"Lady, they say, thy native land
Unlike this clime of fruits and flowers
Loves like the minstrel's northern strand
The sterner share of nature's powers.

"Even beauty's powers of enchanting charms
Decay in the decaying bowers
Until even you may set a task
Too heavy for the poet's powers.

"Mortals in vain—so says the text,
Seek grapes from briars, from thistles corn,
Say, can fair Woollenluss expect
Fruit from a withered Scottish thorn?

"Time once there was, alas, but now
That time returns not neer (?) again
The shades upon the dial cast
Proceed, but pass not back again.

"Yet in this land of lengthening day
Where April wears the Autumn's hue
Awakened by the genial ray
Thoughts of past visions strive to blow.

"The blood grows warm, the nerves expand,
The stiffened fingers take the pen,
And"

The rest is silence. As the broken melody of these sweet sad lines fades away we experience a profound emotion. We are now present after fifty years' silence, at the ceasing of a strain which is now the heritage of the world. We see the fingers that had charmed Marmion from the Minstrel's Northern harp suddenly frozen, the chords still murmuring under their last feeble, but fervid touch. I do not know anything in literature more pathetic and suggestive than the abrupt ceasing of this attempted song. After the final word, "And," so pregnant with hope, we look down listfully into the soundless void. You will observe that the fire

of the verse burns as brightly as ever, although the shadow of ebbing power is deliberately cast over it, "The ancient spirit is not dead," but the body imagination creates is faulty and imperfect. What can comfort us in presence of this decay of creative force? The soul ebbs from time to flow in fresh strength towards the shore of eternity. Anaxagoras, when told his son had died, simply observed, "I never supposed that I had begotten an immortal;" but one of the early Christian hermits exclaimed when some one told him his father was dead, "Cease your blasphemy, my father is immortal." And so to the knowledge that in the words of Cicero, which are, alas, the limits of heathen hope, *vita mortuorum in memoria vivorum est posita*, is added the certainty of their strength and glory beyond the veil of sense and time. But, underneath faulty mechanism let us look at the soul. What can be finer than the modest grace with which, in the first verse, which alone is formally correct, the writer disclaims for his country all rivalry with the land where Promethean fire is fed from the golden urn of Italian skies, and likens his Fatherland to the rude clime from which his fair petitioner came?

> "Lady, they say thy native land
> Unlike this clime of fruits and flowers,
> Loves, like the minstrel's northern strand,
> The sterner share of nature's powers."

In the second stanza, mechanically imperfect, how characteristic and pathetic the confession that even beauty might fail, in "the decaying powers of his life," to charm back the blood to his stiffened fingers. In the third quatrain his love and admiration of Holy Scripture is remarkably shown. The words are in substance those of our Saviour.

> "Mortals in vain—so says the text—
> Seek grapes from briars: from thistles corn."

And what follows, though halting in rhyme, is full of the old spirit:

> "Say, can fair Wolenluss expect
> Fruit from a wither'd Scottish thorn?"

That he should compare himself to a "Wither'd Scottish thorn" is another proof, if any were needed, of Scott's lowly estimate of his own powers, and of his exquisite fancy. The fourth verse is felicitous as well as touching:

> "Time once there was, alas, but now
> That time returns not (neer?) again."

I seem to hear a Virgilian ring here. The lines of the great Roman might occur to him, in the land where the Æneid was built,

> "O mihi præteritos referat si Jupiter annos
> Qualis eram," &c.

"The shades upon the dial cast
Proceed, but pass not back again,"

express a fine thought and in perfect diction, nervous and strong. Then, in the fifth verse,

"Awakened by the genial ray"

of the sunny south,

"Thoughts of past visions strive to blow."

Alas, they only "strive." And then comes the end; just when we are expecting a fresh burst of melody:

"The blood grows warm, the nerves expand,
The stiffened fingers take the pen,
And"

How few things worthy to live are completed in the closing hours of a great artist's life! Standing last summer before the last sketch of Gainsborough, in Castle Howard, with the broken harmony of Scott's last lines in my ear, I could not help reflecting how common it is for genius to leave its work unfinished. Never satisfied, it must go on creating. If it ever ceased because it was satisfied it would lose its rank. Thorwaldsen was found one day weeping over a statue he had just completed. On being asked why he wept, he said because it was the first statue with which he had ever been satisfied, and so he felt sure that his genius was going. Nothing which Scott ever penned places him in the first rank of poets, although in the second he "could be jealous of no one." But that he is our prose Shakspeare none will dispute. And I have often amused myself by tracing the influence of the great English dramatist animating and colouring much of Scott's best work—that master of all masters, of whom I may say, as Scott would have said in nobler words:

Stands Shakspeare on the highest Alp of fame,
His form fills every nation's wondering eye,
His voice their ear with sound that cannot die.
The kings of thought revere their Sovereign's name,
And hail him with a deep devout acclaim.
Sweeter than lute, and gentler than a child,
Strong as pure fire, and grand as ocean wild,
God built his soul of such a sun-light frame
That mightiest spirits rolled, like planets round.
Forth from its depths in myriad accents flung
The awe-struck passions heard their voices sound,
And nature, spoused, upon her Prospero hung.
Humanity at last her teacher found,
The bard of England and the lord of song.

In an age like this, critical and subjective, when our singers warble to select coteries, when pretty little graceful oratories and chapels rise under small, delicate, white etherial ghost-like hands, when

we are asked to drink the rarified air which inspiration quaffs in viewless balloons, it would be well for us that we worshipped more frequently and devoutly in the great Gothic temple the manly genius of Scott built, and drank more freely of the fresh, sweet, pure springs of earth's glorious hills the genius of Scott unsealed. To conclude, the really last words written by Sir Walter were these—"Sir Walter Scott for Scotland," still to be seen in a visitors' book in the Tyrol. In these words, taken in a wider sense than he intended, breathing the spirit that animated his life, lies the open secret of his work and fame. And the really last words spoken were these—"Lockhart, I may have but a minute to speak to you. My dear, be a good man—be virtuous, be religious—be a good man. Nothing else will give you any comfort when you come to lie here." He paused, and Lockhart said, "Shall I send for Sophia and Annie?" (his daughters). "No," said he, "don't disturb them. Poor souls! I know they were up all night. God bless you all." Self-sacrificing, you see, to the last—the considerate father, the perfect gentleman, the sincere Christian. On the tomb of this dead brother of our studies who "yet speaketh," I place this simple wreath.

July 26th, 1880.

The Rev. Canon Pownall, F.S.A., in the chair.

Mr. Arthur Peach, of Beaconsfield House, Fosse Road, Leicester, was elected a member of the Society.

The following articles were exhibited:—

By Captain Whitby: An oil painting, by Throsby, the county historian, of Goose Simpson.

By Major Bellairs: Farthing (Irish) of Charles II.

By the Chairman: Five Greek coins. (1) Silver coin of Ephesus, obverse "a bee," with the initial letters in Greek E.P.H.; reverse a stag (sacred to Diana) standing by a palm tree, and the word ARTEMID (OS). (2) Small silver coin of Miletus (Tonio), obverse, lion's head; reverse, a star. (3) Tetradrachm of Tyre (in Phœnicia), obverse, head of Hercules; reverse, eagle, and in Greek character, TUROU IERAS KAI ASULOU. (4) Tetradrachm of Ptolemy II. (Philadelphus), 300 B.C., struck at Cyprus; obverse, head of Ptolemy; reverse, eagle, and in Greek character, PTOLEMAIOU. BASILEOS. PA, for Paphos, in which town the coin was struck. (5) Copper coin of Sidon, of the reign of Alexander Severus; obverse, head of Alexander; reverse, chariot of the sun, COL AUR PIA METRO. SID. Dish of Staffordshire ware of the 17th century (*circa* 1680); in shape octagon, it had a bold pattern of

four bursting pomegranates, alternated with fleurs-de-lis, chocolate brown on buff ground, with a centre, under which were the initials I.S. Though very far from being of good workmanship, it was exceedingly effective as a specimen of this ware.

A paper contributed by Mrs. Thursby upon

A WALL PAINTING IN LUTTERWORTH CHURCH

Was then read by the Chairman as follows:—

On the north wall of the north aisle of Lutterworth Church are certain paintings in fresco, apparently portraits of two kings and a queen, conjectured by Mr. Bloxam (*Transactions* L.A.S. for 1874) to be earlier than the time of Wickliffe. No evidence appearing as to whom they represent, he supposes them to be effigies of Edward II. and Edward III. We propose to adduce some evidence showing the probability of assigning a later date, though only perhaps a score of years or so (Mr. Bloxam suggesting the middle of the fourteenth century), and that they are in reality portraits of Richard II. and his Queen, and of John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, placed there by Wickliffe himself. There is indeed a presumption in favour of Edward III., as he presented Wickliffe to the living, the actual patron, Lord Ferrars, of Groby, being at that time an infant; but the king survived the presentation so short a time, that the portrait could hardly have been executed then. We can see no reason for supposing the other figure to be Edward II., nor, in that case, could we account for the representation of the lady, whereas Annie of Bohemia, Richard's Queen, was known to be a staunch patroness of Wickliffe, and in conjunction with her mother-in-law, Joanna, Princess of Wales, was the instrument of saving his life when in great danger at the Lambeth Council (*Lives of the Queens of England*, Vol. 1, p. 599). Miss Strickland, indeed, considers her the first of the "illustrious princesses who were nursing-mothers of the Reformation." Wickliffe was appointed to the living of Lutterworth in 1375, having for some years borne the title of Royal Chaplain, which was continued to him by Richard II. on his accession. We therefore incline to place the paintings somewhere between that date, and 1384, the year of Wickliffe's death. Throughout his career he was a decided upholder of the regal supremacy against the pretensions of the Pope and the clergy, which gives some colour to the supposition that he would cause portraits of the reigning sovereigns to be placed in his Church. We shall presently adduce the reasons for joining with them, that of the Duke of Lancaster, his powerful patron; but may add, incidentally, that as Mr. Bloxam avers these paintings to have been formerly covered over with other frescoes, they may, in a similiar manner, have

replaced a still lower stratum of ornament, perhaps pictures representing some religious or superstitious subject, towards which the great Reformer was known to have a rooted objection (Lewis' *Life of Wickliffe*, pp. 150, 104-5). Such a practice was followed in later days, when the Royal Arms replaced the crucifix on the rood-loft. Wickliffe was first brought to the notice of the Court, and more particularly of the Duke of Lancaster, by a pamphlet written in 1366, in opposition to the Pope's claim of feudal supremacy over England, founded upon King John's act of resignation. Several of his works were afterwards dedicated to the Duke, but the first occasion on which he appears as his pnblic patron and protector, is when Wickliffe was cited to appear before the Archbishop and the Bishop of London, immediately after King Edward's death in 1377. The Earl Marshall was sent to clear a way for him through the crowd, a mark of signal favour which led to high words between John of Gaunt and the Bishops. On another occasion, when Wickliffe was denouncing the sale of pardons and indulgences in the public street, probably in Leicester, the enraged Friar, who was vending them, exclaimed, "Take heed how ye listen to him, for he's a stark heretic, nor should he go up and down with his cursed doctrine, but that he hath the countenance of the great Duke of Lancaster, whom no man may gainsay; take heed if he come this way lest ye be led into evil; that is the Bible Doctor, the cursed parson of Lutterworth" (quoted in Gardiner's *Music and Friends*, Vol. 1, p. 137). John of Gaunt strongly supported Wickliffe in his noble task of translating the Scriptures into English, and declared publicly in Parliament that "The people of England would not be the dregs of all men, seeing all nations besides them had the law of God in their own tongue." And we may remark that in Wickliffe's rendering of 1 Peter, ii. 14, he uses the word "Dukes," rather than our later translation, "Governors," thus paying an indirect compliment to his powerful patron. "St. Peter commandeth in God's name Christen men to be suget either to Kings as more high than others, either to Dukes as sent by Him to the vengeance of misdoers, &c." John of Gaunt suffered from his protection of Wickliffe, his palace and furniture being destroyed during the riots which followed the poll-tax, which seems to have been as much religious as political, and incited by the Friars, to whom Wickliffe was a sworn enemy. The Duke's advocacy and protection are the more remarkable, as his confessor, John Kyningham or Cunningham, belonged to the order of Carmelites, and was of course strongly opposed to Wickliffe, having even published three books against him. But John of Gaunt was evidently a man of strong sense, and not disposed to submit to clerical dictation. Almost the only point on which he seems to have differed with the Reformer, was with regard to the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist, the Duke not being inclined to go the full length in

denying the Real Presence. During the last two years of his life, Wickliffe resided principally in his parish of Lutterworth, and the short distance between that and Leicester, renders it probable that he was a frequent visitor at the Castle there, when inhabited by John of Gaunt. But, it may be asked, how do we account for the crown on the head of the bearded figure? Supposing our conjecture to be true, it may be only a ducal coronet, which in the present state of the fresco, and the imperfect light, is hardly distinguishable from a crown. It will also be remembered that John of Gaunt married as his second wife, in 1368, Constance, daughter of Pedro the Cruel, and immediately claimed the title of King of Castile in her right. He did not renounce the claim till 1389, some years after Wickliffe's death; so that during the whole of the latter's incumbency, the Duke would have been regarded as titular King of Castile, and his claim would have been a special subject of interest at the time when Wickliffe first placed himself under his protection. This would account also for the rather singular circumstance of two crowned heads appearing side by side in the painting. The hawk on the wrist is a symbol of dignity and adds peculiar significance to our conjecture, from the fact that John of Gaunt was passionately fond of the chase, and entertained Richard II. and his Queen at a magnificent hunting party in Leicester Forest (which then occupied the district between Enderby and Earl's Shilton, including Desford or Deersford), shortly after the period to which we are referring. The sceptre in the hand of the other figure, may mark the difference between the King *in esse* and the claimant of a foreign crown. The "wavy hair," though a general trait of the Plantagenet Princes, is so far characteristic of Richard II., that Miss Strickland remarks upon his "feminine delicacy of appearance and feature," which rendered the difference in age between him and his second consort, the very youthful Isabella of Valois, the less remarkable. We have ascertained that there exists an original portrait of this monarch at Wilton House, the seat of the Earl of Pembroke, which almost exactly corresponds with the fresco figure at Lutterworth. It is figured in *Dresses and Decorations of the Middle Ages,* by Henry Shaw, F.S.A., Vol. ii., plate 32. Could similar testimony be obtained as to John of Gaunt, of whom there is a portrait in Curtis's Folio *History of England,* Vol. ii., it would be a confirmation of our theory almost amounting to certainty.

September 27th, 1880.

Mr. John Hunt in the chair.

Mr. W. Lawson Dash was elected a member of the Society.

The following antiquities, &c., were exhibited.

By Mr. John Spencer: A celt found at Stoney Stanton three feet and a half below the surface when unbaring for granite.

By the Chairman: Several silver spoons of the sixteenth century, and a latten Apostle spoon.

By Captain Whitby: A Roman coin of the reign of Vespasian, found in the Abbey Meadow, Leicester.

November 29th, 1880.

The Rev. J. H. Hill, F.S.A., in the chair.

After the transaction of business in Committee, the proposed removal of the Roman pavement in Jewry-wall Street, Leicester, was discussed, and the following resolution put from the chair and carried unanimously:—"That this Society, having heard that the removal of the Roman pavement in Jewry-wall Street is now under consideration by the Museum Committee of the Leicester Corporation, most strongly protests against such removal, as destructive of its antiquarian value; and suggests that steps be taken for facilitating the access of the public to view the pavement."

The Secretary, Mr. W. J. Freer, was directed to forward a copy of the Resolution to the Town Clerk.

The following antiquities, &c., were exhibited.

By the Rev. Canon Pownall, F.S.A.: An old British gold coin. It is described in "*The Coins of the Ancient Britons*," and figured, Plate ii., No. 12—(John Evans, F.R.S., &c.)—"Obverse, convex, COM.F. in a sunken tablet; reverse, VIR REX. A horseman charging to the right, holding in his hand a short dart, behind the horse a *lituus*-shaped object; the whole within a beaded circle." This type was engraved in Camden and Speed. It is found in the south-east of England. *Verica*, or *Virica*, the British prince whose coin this is, is one known to us only by coins; but Commius, his father, (COM. F) was a personage whose name occurs in Roman histories as being at one time the friend, at another time the enemy, of Julius Cæsar. Mr. Evans considers this type to be

among the earliest of those coins of the Britons which bear inscriptions, and must be dated a few years before the birth of Christ.

By Mr. J. E. Weatherhead: A dagger (ivory handle and sheath); the blade was ten inches long, elliptical. The handle, which was ornamented with scroll-work, represented the Papal crown, an eagle displayed, and a figure in armour on horseback, the two latter in ovals emblematic of the arms of Poland; a plain shield; and a grotesque face or mask from which the tongue is protruding. The sheath, also embellished with scroll-work, represented in ovals, with the titles carved above, the crowned heads in profile of the four following kings of Poland, viz., Sigismund I., II., and III., and Stephen (surnamed Bathory), 1506-1586. The workmanship appeared to be executed on the apical portion of the ivory tusk obtained from the well known "Narwhal," or Sea Unicorn, a species of dolphin, and had been hollowed out to admit of the blade. The entire length of the dagger was about seventeen inches. Also, another dagger (ivory handle and sheath); the entire length was sixteen inches; the length of the blade was ten inches. The handle, enriched with scroll-work, depicted the crown, a shield with three fleurs-de-lis (the royal insignia of France), and the heads of two dogs. The sheath, likewise ornamented with scroll-work, displayed in ovals, with the titles carved above, the heads in profile of the four following kings of France, namely, Francis II., Charles IX., Henry III., and Henry IV. (styled the Great), 1559-1610, carved upon the tusk of the "Narwhal," or Sea Unicorn. The workmanship of the two daggers was evidently of the same date, and executed by the same artist.

By the Chairman: Grant of arms to Lord Ann Hamilton. Copy of the will of Mary Edwards, Lady of the Manor of Welham. Copy of the will of Andrew Nowell, of "Dalbye sup le Wolds, xvi. day of December, 2nd year of Queen Elizabeth."

By Captain Whitby: A Japanese dressing-case, full of small boxes of different shapes. Its owners have been traced back for 170 years.

By Mr. W. J. Freer: A fine large medal, struck on the restoration of Charles II. Obverse, Laureated head and bust of Car. II.; inscription "Carolus Secundus Dei gratia Mag Brit. Fran. et Hiber. Rex." Reverse, Britannia seated on a rock, the English navy on the left; motto above "Favento Deo;" below, the word "Britannia." Round the edge, "Carolus Secundus pacis et imperii restitutor augustus." A handsome bronze medal, struck on the death of Nelson. Obverse, bust of Nelson, with the inscription "Hor. Vicecom. Nelson, ob patriam pugnando mort., Oct. 21, 1805." Reverse, full length winged figure of Victory walking on the sea, in the act of hurling a thunderbolt at some Roman galleys; motto, "Ipse belli fulmen." A model five shilling piece of Queen Victoria; a few impressions were struck off, but never circulated.

The Rev. E. C. Mackenzie Walcott, F.S.A., contributed a companion paper to his "Parish Churches before the Reformation," printed in the last volume of the Associated Societies. It was entitled

THE CHURCH AND THE STAGE.

The object being to show the many illustrations furnished by the English dramatic writers, from 1558 to 1649, of the national religion. "Despite," writes Mr. Walcott, "their palpable and frequent anachronisms, their utter confusion of time, and place, and names, and other perplexing incidents, wherever the scene of the play was laid, the habits and manners are, generally speaking, as truly English as the language of the actors. It will, possibly, be a surprise to many persons who are not familiar with the Elizabethan and Stuart drama, to find how well versed the writers for the stage were with church terms, rites, and ceremonies. Of course, many reasons may be assigned for the fact, besides the personal predilections of each author." "The interval" continues the writer, "from 1558 to 1649, which includes nearly all the writers here quoted, was rich in polemical strife, and busy minds could hardly forbear having their thoughts turned to religion and church affairs, in the passage of such events as the religious wars in France, and the massacre of St. Bartholomew; the religious war in Scotland, and the execution of Queen Mary by Elizabeth's Government; the religious troubles in the Low Countries, the days of Alva, Egmont, and Horn, and the assassination of the Prince of Orange; the Spanish Armada, the Thirty Years' War, the fights along the Spanish Main, the Gunpowder Plot, and the Conference at Hampton Court." After further introductory remarks, Mr. Walcott's paper proceeded to give copious extracts from the dramatic writers with reference to the Holy Scriptures, the different parties in the church, the clergy, the services of the church, the church and the altar, lights, bells, incense, flowers, the pax and stoup, habits and vestments &c., &c., the whole being treated from an antiquarian point of view, and not in a controversial manner. This Paper was printed in the Associated Societies' Reports and Papers for the year 1880.

The Rev. W. G. Dimock Fletcher, of Oxford, also contributed a Paper on—

THE ANCIENT BRASSES IN LOUGHBOROUGH CHURCH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

An account of all the Monumental Brasses remaining in the county of Leicester at the present time would be very interesting.

I think it would be found that many of those mentioned by Nichols are now missing, whilst perhaps in a few cases, some not noticed by him have been brought to light. I purpose to make a few remarks on the fragmentary brasses now remaining in the grand old Church of Loughborough.

When this Church was restored, at a cost of about £10,000, some fifteen years ago, the few remaining brasses were fixed to the south wall of the tower. They are as follows :—

1. The fragment of an inscription to Robert Fry, Rector of Loughborough, and Deputy Keeper of the King's Privy Seal, 1435 :

> " . . . . . cessionem gloriose
> Virginis Marie ppiciet 'deus Amë."

Below, on a second oblong plate, are these lines :—

> "Nomine Frye dictus subtus jacet ecce Robertus
> Pulvere constructus, quondam dictamine certus,
> Privati fuit is, subcustos nempe sigilli
> Lughtburgi Rector, paradisum det deus illi."

This brass was formerly on the south side of the chancel. Ralph Sheldon, of Weston, near Long Compton, co. Warwick, in a volume of Church Notes, which I have found in the Bodleian Library (A. Wood MS., C-11, 8550), gives this fuller inscription, and fortunately has preserved the date, which Nichols guessed was "about 1500:"—"Loughborough: In the chancel, on a stone even with the ground, 'Hic jacet Dns. Robertus Fry, quondam rector istius ecclesiæ qui quidem Robertus obijt . . 1435. Cuius aiæ p intercessionem gloriosæ Virginis Mariæ propietur Deus Amen.'" Sheldon also gives the four hexameter lines, "Nomine," &c. Throsby (*Excursions*, p. 273) gives an engraving of the brasses, in which the former part reads thus :—"Hic jacet . . . Rector istius ecclesie qui o . . essionem gloriose Virginis Marie ppiciet deus Ame." Nichols also gives an engraving (*West Goscote*, pl. cxxi., fig. 38, and pl. cxxii., fig. 4 and 5); and in his time the inscription was as follows :—"✠ Hic jacet Robertus Frye, quondam rector istius ecclesie qui o . . . . essionem gloriose Virginis Marie ppciet, Deus Amen." I mention these different inscriptions to show that the brass has, since Sheldon's time, been gradually diminishing.

2. This is an interesting brass to Giles Jordan and Margaret his wife, 1455—not 1415, as Burton and Nichols state. The centre part of his figure, and the whole of hers, remain. Burton gives these arms: Quarterly, Argent, three mullets gules, and Sable a chevron Or between three garbs Argent; but they were gone when

Nichols wrote. On a separate plate is a greatly worn and almost illegible inscription, which Nichols gives as follows:—"Here lieth Giles Jordan . . . and Marg'et his wife, under this stone . . . late fischmong, of London, fundour ap . . . ." The brass is complete, though greatly worn, and I much wish that some antiquary would decipher it, as it is not preserved in any book. Giles Jordan's tomb formerly stood near the old vestry door, in the south transept. There are engravings of the brass in Throsby's *Excursions*, p. 273; and in Nichols, plate cxxii., fig. 3.

On the back of the above inscription to Giles Jordan is this to Elizabeth Lisle: "Orate p aiabz Elizabeth Lisle nup filie Johis Cerff unie (viii ?) Rememorator de sccio Regis Herici Sexti. Otuelis Lisle filij et Johne filie dce Elizabeth qe obiernt tmino sci Hillarij Anno xvii ejusdem regis." Probably this inscription contained some error, and so the brass was used by the founder for another customer.

3. An inscription, in two lines, to Thomas Marchall, 1480, as follows:—"Hic jacent Thomas Marchall, marchand de Loghtborht, & Agnes ux ejus qui quid. Thomas obitt xxxi. die mens Julij, ano dni. m.cccc lxxx. quor aiabs piciet deus." Above are two figures, and two groups of children. The brass is engraved in Throsby's *Excursions*, p. 273, and in Nichols, plate cxxii., fig. 4. This brass was formerly at the upper end of the nave, "in a cross aisle facing the south."

4. The matrix alone remains of a handsome brass which formerly lay near the entrance to the chancel, to Robert Lemington, merchant of the staple, and his wife, 1512; but not a fragment of the brass remains. In 1790 a portion of the canopy was in existence, and a shield of the merchants of the staple, engraved in Nichols pl. cxxi., fig. 37. In 1622 there was another shield of the arms of Lemington.

Burton and Nichols mention a tomb to Gilbert Mering, a gentleman of Nottinghamshire, 1481; and Throsby and Nichols give engravings of an inscription to William Goodwine, 1592; but there is now no trace of either.

January 31*st*, 1881.

THE ANNUAL MEETING

Was held in the Library, Guild Hall, Leicester: The Rev. J. H. Hill, F.S.A., in the chair.

The following audited

TREASURER'S STATEMENT FOR 1880

was read :—

Receipts.	£	s.	d.
1880,			
Jan. 1. Balance from old Account	97	13	11
Dec. 31. Subscriptions and Arrears received during the year	106	10	6
Books sold in 1879	3	1	10
„ „ 1880	1	1	3
	£208	7	6
1881.			
Jan. 1. Balance in hand,	£95	4	0

Payments.	£	s.	d.
1880.			
Grant for Transactions	35	0	0
Utting, Engraving	0	6	6
Clarke, Printing, &c., 1879..	10	15	9
„ Rent to L. D. 1879....	5	0	0
Stamford Meeting in full	1	5	0
Williamson, share of Annual Volume in 1879	40	16	9
Advertising	5	6	3
Hall Keeper.....	0	9	0
Clarke, Printer, &c. 1880	8	2	11
„ Rent to L. D., 1880 ..	5	0	0
Secretary's Sundries	1	1	4
Balance.....	95	4	0
	£208	7	6

Examined and found correct,

(Signed) THOMAS HOLYLAND,

Auditor.

After which

THE REPORT

of the Committee for the past year was read as follows :—

The Report of the proceedings of this Society during the past year, the twenty-sixth of its existence, has been deprived of some part of its interest, because the Annual Summer Meeting, held for many years in succession, could not take place. The absorbing interest of the General Election, followed by the Church Congress (which required months of careful preparation), made it impossible to give sufficient time and thought to the Summer Excursion. A Sub-committee was appointed to arrange for a meeting at Oxford, but found themselves unable to carry out their instructions. It is to be hoped that the Excursion to Oxford will take place in the present year. During the Church Congress week many of the visitors showed great appreciation of the antiquities and buildings of the town, to which they were conducted by Major Bellairs, one of the Honorary Secretaries, and by A. H. Paget, Esq.

The Papers read during the past year were :—

1.—*Extracts from the Registers of a Country Parish,* by the Rev. Canon Pownall, F.S.A.

2.—*Two Leicestershire Parish Registers,* by the Rev. W. G. Dimock Fletcher.

3.—*The last verses of Sir Walter Scott,* by the Rev. J. B. Dickson, LL.B.

4.—*On a Wall Painting in Lutterworth Church,* by Mrs. G. W. Thursby.

5.—*The Ancient Brasses in Loughborough Church*, by the Rev. W. G. D. Fletcher.

6.—*The Church and the Stage*, by the late Rev. Mackenzie Edward Charles Walcott, F.S.A.

Various objects of interest have been exhibited by several members of the Society, among which may be mentioned a specimen of Early English Printing, of the fifteenth century; several rare ancient British coins, exhibited by the Rev. Canon Pownall; and a curious thumb-ring by Mr. G. C. Bellairs.

Since the last bi-monthly Meeting, when a curious and valuable contribution to the Transactions of this Society was laid upon the table, from the Rev. Mackenzie E. C. Walcott, that gentleman has been called away from his labours on earth. Mr. Walcott, who was elected an honorary member of this Society a few years ago, has died comparatively a young man. The son of Admiral Walcott, M.P. for Christchurch, Hants, he was born at Bath in the year 1822. After taking his degree at Oxford he held several clerical appointments. In 1863 he became Precentor and Prebendary of Oving, in Chichester Cathedral, which he held until his death, during a portion of which time he was also minister of Berkeley Chapel, Mayfair. Mr. Walcott's reputation as a general antiquary, and specially as an ecclesiologist, stood deservedly very high. Though a most voluminous writer—for during thirty-three years he wrote over one hundred works—his contributions are all marked with great care and originality. He was no mere copyist or compiler from other men's books, but laboured harder than most men amongst the original and rare manuscripts preserved in our great libraries and national collections. His first literary work of any pretension was *The History of the Parish Church of St. Margaret, Westminster*, which appeared in 1847; and his last, *The English Student's Monasticon*, which was issued from the press in 1879. Mr. Walcott was not a mere ornamental member of this Society: he contributed some valuable Papers to its Transactions. An early one was *Church Goods in Framland Hundred, Leicestershire—temp. Edward VI.* In the last volume of the Associated Societies appeared a valuable contribution from his pen, entitled *Parish Churches before the Reformation.* When he offered that Paper to your Honorary Secretary, he said it was his last contribution to sacred archæology. The old passion for his favourite studies was, however, still strong upon him, for a few months ago he wrote:—"Dear Mr. North,—As I told you some time since, I have laid aside archæology for good and all. I now offer you the last remains in the form of *Illustrations of Church Customs from the Drama.* It has never been attempted, and commentators are full of blundering. It is not a long article, but it has taken a very long time to collect and mature materials." This Society, in the Paper thus referred to, is in possession of the last contribution to archæology from his busy and accurate pen, for his labours came to an end, after a long period of delicate health, on the 22nd of December last.

Your Society has discussed the contemplated removal of the Roman Pavement, and at the last bi-monthly Meeting it was unanimously resolved "That this Society, having heard that the removal of the Roman Pavement in Jewry-wall Street is now under consideration by the Museum Committee, most strongly protests against such removal, as destructive of its antiquarian value, and suggests that steps be taken for facilitating the access of the public to view the Pavement." A resolution similiar in effect has been passed by the Leicester Literary and Philosophical Society, and copies of both resolutions were forwarded to the Town Clerk. Your Secretary, Mr. W. J. Freer, has also been in communication with the Society of Antiquaries on the subject, and it is hoped that some satisfactory result may be arrived at, which may tend to preserve for future generations, so remarkable a memorial of the Roman occupation of Leicester.

During the past year several churches in the county have been reopened after repair, among them may be noticed:—

Sileby Church.

This church has been two years under repair. The old foundations of the walls and pillars have been replaced by fresh foundations of granite chips and Portland cement. The east window of five lights, surmounted by handsome tracery, is new; choir seats of oak and pitch pine have been placed on either side of the chancel, and a beautiful screen erected on the north side. The oak roof has been restored, and the tower made safe by repairing the upper portion. The western arch previously blocked up has been opened, the gallery taken away, and a new ringers' floor built. On the south side of the building a priests' chamber or library was discovered. The restoration has been carried out by Mr. Blomfield, of London.

Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

This church has been enlarged and greatly beautified by the addition of several stained glass windows placed in the north transept as a public memorial of the late William Perry Herrick, Esq., and Miss Herrick.

Laughton.

Laughton Church has been completed, and was reopened on the 13th July after a thorough restoration, from the plans of Mr. Charles Kirk, architect, of Sleaford. The chancel has been rebuilt, a new roof placed on the nave, and the internal fittings of the church replaced.

S. Martin's, Leicester.

The north aisle of this church has been repaired under the direction of Mr. George E. Street, and the north porch restored, and the church beautified by the gift of seven handsome stained glass windows.

S. Margaret's Leicester.

This church is still under repair, the chancel, nave, and south aisle being as yet unfinished, and the north aisle not begun. Mr. George E. Street is the architect.

Medbourne Church.

The nave of this church has been restored, and was reopened this summer. The chancel was restored some time since.

The Statement of Accounts, and the Report of the Committee, having been confirmed and adopted, the Committee and officers elected, and the usual votes of thanks passed, the following antiquities, &c., were exhibited :—

By Mr. Hobson: Nine old silver spoons and a silver tankard, dug up in the house of W. C. Morris, Esq., of Oakham. Two of the spoons were Apostle spoons. The dates of the various articles were from 1561 to 1631.

By Mr. W. J. Freer: A fine folio edition of Chaucer's works, by Thomas Speght, dated 1598, with a preface by Francis Beaumont, dated "from Leicester the last of June, anno 1597."

By the Rev. Canon Pownall, F.S.A.: Four "assignats" of the first French Republic, 1793, "payable to bearer," of the

respective values of fifteen sols, fifty sols, twenty-five livres, and one hundred francs. To explain fully what was the history of the "assignats" would take many pages. It is enough to say that their beginning dated from the confiscation of the property of the Church. Under the guidance of Talleyrand, Mirabeau, and the whole strength of the Revolutionary party, the nation assumed possession of all Church property, provided for the clergy (?) by reducing their incomes to one fifth of what they were, and used the estates, thus confiscated, as a fund to furnish security for an enormous issue of paper money. Of that paper money these assignats were specimens. This was in 1789-90. By the year 1793, when those which were exhibited were issued, their commercial value had sunk to one-third of their legal value, though by that time, to the confiscated property of the Church was added as further security, the confiscated property of the emigrant nobles and gentlemen. In 1796 this paper money had fallen to a thousandth part of its nominal value. The issue then amounted to £200,000,000 sterling! In the pages of Alison (*History of Europe*) full information is given as to their issue, and their baneful influence on the fortunes of the Republic.

By Mr. F. R. Morley: A silver *ciborium* of unknown date.

By Mr. John Hunt: A fluted silver porringer of the reign of Queen Anne, 1699, Britannia standard of silver, and an old engraving from a mythological work of Raffaele.

The Chairman exhibited an old stone cross of the fourteenth century, which belonged to Cranoe Church, and contributed the following remarks thereon: "I have much pleasure in exhibiting this day the ancient cross of the chancel of Cranoe Church. The old church was taken down in 1846, owing to its very unsafe and ruinous state, and in its place was erected the present very handsome building. The old building consisted of tower, chancel, nave, and porch. The chancel was partly Early English and partly Decorated, whilst the nave and porch were Perpendicular. The tower arch was Early English, the tower itself about the date of 1490. On the top of the gables were three crosses, all of which were removed at the time of the Commonwealth. Two out of three were destroyed in about the year 1645, but the sockets of all three, in which they were inserted, remained until the church was taken down. The style of this really beautiful and unique cross is Decorated, and it is carved out of a piece of Barnack stone, of which kind most of the church was built. The shaft of the cross is thirteen inches high, the width of it four inches. Upon one side of it is worked a Decorated window below a chalice, with a border between, on the other, in old English letters, IHS, with a cross below. After the cross was taken down from the church, it was placed by the churchwarden in a wall in the old Manor House at Cranoe, and it remained there until the house was taken down

in the year 1824. At that time it was taken away from the parish by one of the masons employed in building the new house. In the year 1837, when I became Rector of Cranoe, I got a loan of the *Gartree Hundred of Leicestershire*, by Nichols, and it was from this book I obtained a knowledge that such a cross existed, and had formerly adorned the gable of the chancel at Cranoe. Mr. John Tailby, of Slawston, not only made a drawing of it, but got it engraved for Mr. Nichols' *History of Leicestershire*, and also gave a description of it (see plate 25, page 552). I searched to find out the whereabouts of this cross, but searched in vain, and it was not until forty-two years after it had been abstracted from the parish that I discovered its place of concealment. The very man who had taken the cross away told me where it was, and said he would get it restored to me, which he did, and it is to Mr. Tailby, who was the great assistant to Mr. Nichols in his *History of Leicestershire*, that I am indebted for the recovery of the cross—for had it not been for the record of it in the *History of the Gartree Hundred*, I should never have known that such a cross had ever existed. I beg to exhibit engravings of the cross at Cranoe, the church at Cranoe, Burrow Hill, S.W., plan of the encampment at Burrow, views of Bradly and Holyoke, all of which will be found, with their descriptions, in the second volume of Nichols' *History of Leicestershire*, the work of Mr. Tailby. I also place upon the table a copy of the *Memoir of Mr. John Tailby's death*, written by Nichols. It may be found in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, Vol. lxxxv. page 85, A.D. 1815."

March 28th, 1881.

Mr. John Hunt in the chair.

After the transaction of business in Committee, the following articles were exhibited:—

By the Chairman: A collection of twenty-four gold English coins dating from James II. to George IV., also a Photograph of an Egyptian tomb supposed to be of the Second Dynasty.

By the Rev. J. Johnson: A necklace of beads found in a stone coffin near Caistor, in Northamptonshire. The coffin contained the skeleton of an adult and of an infant—most probably a mother and her child: both had been draped, but the drapery fell to dust on being exposed to the air.

By Mr. Agar (for Mr. Forrest): A Roman coin (second brass of Magnentius), dug up, two years ago, in Bath Lane, Leicester.

Mr. Agar also produced, on behalf of Mr. Dash, a bronze Academical Medal, dated 1694.

Mr. Thomas North, F.S.A., contributed the following Paper:—

THE RUDING DIARY.

[Introductory:—

Our late friend Mr. James Thompson contributed some amusing articles to the Local Notes and Queries columns of the Leicester Chronicle newspaper in the year 1876, entitled "The Ruding Diary": he did not live to complete what he began. Soon after his death the manuscript book he mentions therein was placed in my hands. Thinking that the contents, being of some local, though of no great, interest, were worthy of a more permanent abiding place than the columns of a newspaper, I have reproduced most of Mr. Thompson's extracts and remarks—some I have omitted as possessing no interest, making a few additions to them where I thought it desirable to do so;—and I have continued the extracts from the point where Mr. Thompson left them to the close of the Book.

Thomas North.]

Part I.

Everybody living in this town knows Westcotes, now the residence of Joseph Harris, Esq. Standing in the midst of old and stately elms, and other trees, it has a certain picturesqueness that is not without its charm in the eyes of every lover of architecture, though the style is modern. The front portion was erected somewhere about the year 1720, by Walter Ruding Esq., the representative of a family which had then been seated at Westcotes from the date of the Reformation. He married Sarah, daughter of the Rev. James Rogers, Archdeacon of Leicester in the reign of George the Second. Mr. Ruding had several sons, but two of the elder died infants, and one unmarried; the succession to the estate and mansion therefore devolved on the fourth son, Rogers Ruding, born in 1710. This gentleman married Anne, the daughter and heiress of Captain James Skrymsher of Hill Hall, in the county of Stafford. He had a brother Dr. Walter Ruding, who died at Warwick, another (John) who died in the East Indies; and another (Clifton) who died at Tunbridge Wells. Mr. Rogers Ruding and his wife had a son, Walter, born 1746, a daughter, Sarah, who died unmarried, a daughter, Anne, married to Charles Porter Packwood, Esq., of Warwick, and a second son who became Dr. Rogers Ruding, Vicar of Maldon, in Surrey. The son Walter had also with other children two sons, Walter and William; and Mr. Rogers Ruding

had nephews Clement and Walter, and nieces (children of his brother John), named Charlotte, Jane and Susannah. These genealogical particulars, being necessary to the understanding of what follows, are here given by way of preliminary explanation.

Mr. Rogers Ruding occupied for many years (he was appointed in the year 1758, and held it till his death) the important and responsible post of Receiver General for the County of Leicester, which rendered an annual journey to London, to visit the office of the Duchy of Lancaster, there to have his accounts passed, indispensable. On these occasions he kept a regular account of his receipts and payments, with entries of a private nature, partly of the character of a diary, in a book lately in the possession of Mr. W. H. Holyoak, of Leicester, and which he obligingly lent for the purpose of making such extracts as might be thought desirable. On the inside of the cover, at the commencement of the book, Mr. Ruding records the years in which he visited the metropolis, and the houses at which he lodged, beginning with 1769 and ending in 1786. He also states what he paid for his lodgings weekly; the sum running from £1. in 1770, to £2. 2s. 0d. in 1786, when he stayed with "Bateson, Great Russell Street, Bloomsbury."

His detailed accounts date from 20th November, 1773. They are prefaced by this entry:—"November ye 21st 1773. Sunday. AR: & Self set out from Derby in a Post Chaise, lay that night at Leicester, on monday night at Northampton, on Tuesday night at S^t^. Albans, got to London on Wednesday ab^t^. 2 o'clock, to Mess: Shelly & Kings, Jewellers, N°. 146, opposite Catherine Street, in the Strand. Lodgings taken for four weeks, commencing Tuesday, Novr 23^d^, to pay per week £1. 10. 0."

The A. R. (initials frequently occurring in the book) were those of Mrs. Ruding. It seems that the diarist was living in Derby, while his son was living at Westcotes. Why and wherefore does not appear. When Mr. Ruding arrived in London he paid his landlords, the Jewellers, £6. 6s. 0d. for a pair of silver plated candlesticks, and he purchased an almanack, a Gentlemen and Ladies' Diary, and provided himself with various articles which he required in lodgings, including a barrel of Colchester oysters for 3s. 6d., and a pound of wax candles for his lantern for 3s. On the 4th of December he went to Drury Lane and saw "The Fair Quaker" and "The Genii" performed. On the day before he paid Mr. Finch £1. 1s. 0d. for a dozen of port wine, 10s. 6d. for a gallon of rum, 1s. 9d. for a bottle of mountain, and 7s. 6d. for dressing food for his dinners, beer, &c. On the 5th he visited his brother John, as is shown by the entry:—"Co[ach] Hi[re] from Jack's 1s." He records that he "Lost by light money £2. 19s 4d." On the 7th he expended 12s. for framing eight pictures, 7s for a pound of sealing wax, 7s 6d. for scales and weights, 1s. for a

corkscrew to draw his port wine, and 3s. for six corks with tin tops. On the next day he paid two coach hires of 2s. each, one to a Dr. Bickenden's and the other to Gray's Inn and back again. On the 10th he gave a present of half a guinea each to "Clem," "Jenny," "Charlot" and "Watty" his nephew and nieces. On the 11th he entered "Pens ½ 100, 6s." On the 13th he again visited Drury Lane, where he saw Garrick act in "Zara" and "The Deserter;" on the 15th he was at Covent Garden, when he witnessed the performance of "Cymbeline" and "Dr. Faustus." An item simply of "Verdyon" appears more than once in the account; as also "Paid [Bell] for newspapers 4s." On the 21st of December, after paying Mr. King £6 for four weeks' lodging and giving 10s. 6d. to Jenny the maid, intending to eat his Christmas dinner in Derby, Mr. Ruding set out from London for that town. He thus enters the event in his memorandum book:—"Expences from London to Derby, lay first night at Newport Pagnell, 2nd. at Leicest: got to Derby on Thursday December 23d ab^{t} 5 in the Evening," the whole cost of the journey down being £6. 18s. 7d.

In July, 1774 Mr. and Mrs. Ruding visited Leicester, his expenses from Derby amounted to £1. 10s. and his charges, with Mrs. Ruding, at "Bishop's" (the landlord of the "Three Crowns Inn" until recently standing in the Gallowtree Gate) "from Monday afternoon to Friday morning, Servants and Barber included" £2. 13s. 4d.

In the winter of 1774 Mr. Ruding proposed to leave Derby for the metropolis on Tuesday, November 15th, "but A.R. having a slight Touch of the Gout in one Hand detain'd us till Tuesday Novr ye 22d." Before setting out he had taken lodgings at £1. 1s. the week at Mrs. Bickerstaff's, Wine Merchant, No. 206, opposite S. Clement's Church in the Strand. He travelled to London by Loughborough, Leicester, Harborough, Northampton, Woburn and S. Albans, in a chaise and pair, which cost (including "Boys, Hostlers, & Turnpikes") £6. 1s. 1d. There is no remarkable difference in the details of his private expenditure between this and the preceding year. He paid 3d. for a roll of tobacco, 7s. 6d. for an opera glass, £4. 16s. 9d. for sixteen gallons and one pint of "Geneva," £3. 0s. 6d. for French cheeses, £1 8s. 6d. for oysters and carriage; he bought "4 pair of rib'd worsted stockings" for the small sum of 1s., purchased an "Account of Sixteen String Jack" with which to amuse his winter evenings, and a copy of the "London Packet" for 2½d. He bought "a steel pen, compasses, &c." for which he gave 9s. 6d.; he procured one hundred cockles for 8d., and an engraved plate of the Ruding Arms which cost him 10s. 6d. He adorned his servant with a gold hat-band at a cost of 11s. 6d. and a loop for the same 1s. 6d., and took Mrs. Ruding to the play at an outlay of 6s. (no doubt in the boxes) for the two tickets. He returned from London to Warwick by the "Oxford

Fly," for two places in which he paid 15s. as "earnest" two days before they started. He paid £5. 5s. 0d. for his lodgings, not forgetting a present to "Bella" the maid, and commenced his homeward journey on the 22nd of December, dining on the way at Maidenhead Bridge, stayed at Oxford, travelled from thence to his son-in-law Packwood's at Warwick, where he spent his Christmas. On the 5th of January he returned to Derby by Coleshill and Lichfield, at the latter of which places he supped.

Mr. Ruding took a journey from Derby to Warwick by way of Leicester, in July, 1775. He stopped at "Bishop's" again—why not at Westcotes, does not appear. He was away from home from the 3rd to the 22nd when he returned in a chaise from Leicester to Derby, for which the charge was £1. 8s. 6d.

Amongst the "out-payments" for 1774-5 and in succeeding years, are entered a subscription of £5. 5s. 0d. to the Leicester Infirmary then recently established, and 7s. "To wine &c. for the Mayor &c."

On Friday, the 17th November, 1775, he started for London in a chaise, staying the first night at Leicester, the second at Northampton, the third at S. Albans, and arrived at Mr. Green's, Hatter and Hosier, No. 200, opposite S. Clement's Churchyard, in the Strand, on Monday, the 21st, about two o'clock; there he stayed until Saturday, the 16th of December, when he left in the "Oxon Post Coach," lay at Oxford, got to Warwick on the following day—Sunday—stayed there until Friday, the 21st, when he left for home, which he reached on the 23rd, "by dinner." His expences during his stay in London were of the usual kind: he bought his wine—"Mountain," "Red Port," and also some "Rum:" he purchased a Court Calendar, a Ladies' Diary, a Gentleman's Diary, and he paid ninepence occasionally for "news:" he bought "6 Pints of Daffy's Elixir"—a noted quack medicine—"at 5s. a Pint" which, being rather costly, he placed in a box with partitions for the bottles and a lock, for which he paid 2s. 6d. He went to see "The Maid of the Oaks;" he paid 6d. for "Songs in the Duenna," 4s. for two almanacks, 17s. 6d. for 5 barrels of oysters four of which he sent to Leicester, the carriage costing 4s., and one to Warwick, the transit costing 1s. 6d. During this stay he frequently had his dinners dressed at the Crown and Anchor, opposite S. Clement's Churchyard, kept at that time by Richard Holloway: dressing a turkey cost 6d., a fowl and egg sauce 9d., dressing and stuffing a calf's heart 9d., and so on. He went to the theatre to see "Old City Manners and the Ghost," he bought six packs of cards for 4s. 6d., a "surtout" including the making for £2.—and two boxes of pills for 3s.

In the following year, 1776, he visited Leicester in June, taking with him Mrs. Ruding and his daughter Sarah: he stayed with his son-in-law, Mr. Packwood, of Warwick, on his return journey,

when he distributed a guinea amongst his grandchildren ("Packwood's cubs" he calls them) there. Later in the year he went to London in a Post Chaise, as usual, by way of Northampton and Dunstable. He thus summarised his journey:—"November 24th 1776 A.R. & self set out from Derby in a Post Chaise, 10 minutes before 11, got to Leicester 5 min: before 4; Miss Anderson sup'd with us—she & Dorcas din'd with us the next day—call'd of Mrs. Anderson, Mr. Bunney & Mrs. Jordain, sign'd deeds for chusing Trustees for Barrow Hospital & other Trusts, Miss Anderson, Dorcas and Davie sup'd with us.

"26th set out from Leicester 20 before 10, got to ye Peacock at Northampton, Mr. Mills, 25 past 3.

"27th set out ¼ before 9, got to St. Albans ½ past 3.

"28th set out ¼ before 10, got to Mr. Green's Hatter & Hosier No. 200 opposite St. Clement's Church in the Strand ¼ past 3, soon after had a Letter from Mr. Hoims, to acquaint that little Charles Porter Packwood, after being ill abt. 6 days, died on Tuesday ye 26th.

"Dec 1. Din'd with Sister John.

4th Sister, Polly, Clem, Jenny, Charlot, & Watty sup'd with us.

5th Din'd with Maltby; young Mrs. Maltby, & a Spanish Gentleman din'd with us."

As usual he swore to his accounts as Receiver, and paid the balance into the exchequer, which this year was:—

"On Lands for 1775	...	...	£5943 . 0 . 8¾
Windows do.	...	...	1160 . 12 . 7
	Tot[l]	...	7103 . 13 . 3½"

Mr. Ruding's expences are as usual minutely given. He paid 3s. for the "Index to ye 20 first years of ye Gents Magazine" and 2s. for "an Ivory Box to hold 20 Guineas." He also mentions his visits to [Drury Lane] Theatre, where he saw "Love for Love" and "Selina and Azor" performed, and his consulting Mr. Douglas, an apothecary, from whom he obtained "something" for his cough, which, however, he says "had not much effect." His cough did not prevent him dining with Mr. Green the next day on "a roast pig and a pudding." On the 23rd of December Mr. Ruding set out in the "Post Coach" for Oxford, accompanied by the Rev. Mr. Cox and Captain Tindal, of the Gloucestershire Militia, with his son. He stayed the night at the "New Inn Oxon" ("Mem: not so good as the Star") and the day after, at ½ past 5, he was at Warwick where he stayed a few days. While there he dined with

Lord Warwick, "Mr. & Mrs. Loyd, Mr. & Miss Selina Mills, Dr. Haddo, Bob Greville, Mr. Cole & Mr. & Mrs. Packwood" being also of the party. On the 31st he returned home to Derby with a large party from Warwick occupying two post chaises with "Man John on Horseback."

Mr. Ruding continues his entries in 1777:—it will be remembered that "R.R." and "A.R." are the initials of the diarist and his wife:—"R.R. & A.R. went to Leicester, Tuesday, July ye 1st 1777. Miss Anderson & Mr. Davie sup'd with us.

"2^d^ Miss Anderson breakfasted with us, got the bonds signed, Mr. Bentley very ill, sign'd a Conveyance to Mr. Pares & Son of some ground & old Buildings, part of the tenements rented by Pocklington, received for it £37 16s 00d."

At this date Messrs. Pares and Son were Solicitors in Cank Street, with which their successors Messrs. Miles, Gregory and Bouskell are now identified. "Pocklington" was the person whose name is still perpetuated in the well known street, once a "walk" when Leicester did not extend beyond Welford Place.

"3^d^ Set out for Warwick, dined at Hinckley.

"6th A.R. taken ill ab^t^. 2 in the morning, pain in the stomach, same disorder she had a week before at Derby when Dr. Berridge was sent for, his medicines were too hot for her, sent for Mr. Gery Apothecary at Warwick who blooded her & gave her cooling medicines, which soon reliev'd her.

"9th Rory was ordain'd Priest on the third Sunday after Trinity, ye Ordination being put off till that time on acc^t^ of a new Bishop being appointed for Oxon, he read Prayers twice at St Maries in Warwick on Sunday July ye 13th. Walter's wife bro^t^ to Bed of a Daughter on Thursday July 18th at 1 in ye morning—gave him £3 . 3 . 0 for Sally as Godmother.

"19th Gave M^rs^. Packwood £3 . 3 . 0 for self or A. R. which shall be wanted as Goss[ip] to ye Cub at present unborn, but daily expected.

"D^o^ Dined with Lord Warwick, Mr. Packwood, Rory, Lady Warwick and her 2 sisters Miss Vernons."

"Rory" was most probably Mr. Ruding's second son Rogers born in August 1751; he afterwards became, as already mentioned, Vicar of Maldon in Surrey.

On the 20th July Mr. Ruding returned to Leicester on his way to Derby, which latter place he reached after some difficulty (for one of the chaise horses becoming very ill on the way, they with "much ado" got him home) on the evening of the 22nd.

The annual visit to London was commenced on the 26th November 1777, when Mr. and Mrs. Ruding starting from Derby at 11 o'clock, reached their lodgings at Mr. Christian's linen draper, No. 191, opposite S. Clement's churchyard in the Strand, on the evening of the 29th having had fine weather all the way. His

"Trunk," as usual, was sent by carrier at a charge of 6s. 6d. with 1s. extra for porterage.

On the 1st December Mr. Ruding makes the entry:—"At the Play—'The School for Scandal'—a very diverting play and well perform'd—and 'Harlequin's Invasion,' foolish enough—Duke and Duchess of Gloucester there—the gallery clap'd and gave three Huzzas when they came in & when they went out."

On the 2nd he saw Mrs. Wright's Waxwork figures in Chidley Court, Pall Mall, which he pronounces as "very curious" paying 2s. each for the sight.

During his stay in London Mr. Ruding purchased Eaton's Sermons in two volumes, Universal Pocket Companion third edition, Trusler's Chronology, several other books, and some almanacks: he expended £2. 4s. 0d. in oysters which he sent to his friend: 7s. 6d. in gilding his shoe and knee buckles, and other small sums for "coat gilt buttons" and "breast D°," £1. 4s. 0d. for "6 yards of muslin for 12 neck cloths," £3. 5s. 0d. to the barber "2 wigs included," items pointing to a style of dress lingering within the memory of some of us now living.

On the 3rd December he enters:—"Fair and cold—stiff neck—got cold, I suppose, at Drury Lane on Monday through plaguy ventilators—at home all day."

"14th Fair but cloudy and cold, Din'd with sister John, Mr. Nimbletongue from the Middle Temple din'd there; 2 Miss Palmers drank tea, came home ½ past 8.

"15th Fair, cold and cloudy, paid Sills for oysters, ordered him to send a barrel every fortnight to Derby, by the waggon which sets out on Saturday, gets to Derby on Wednesday. Mr. Nimbletongue's name is Wortham from Royston in Hertfordshire—drank Tea at Mr. Green's, play'd at Quadrille with Mr. & young Mrs. Green—old Mrs. Green & Miss Dykes, a lodger at Mr. Green's, sat by. Evening at home."

Mr. Ruding spent his Christmas Day in rather a gloomy manner in London: "25th Dark and cloudy—at home all day." Having made his accounts "all right" he started on his homeward journey on the 28th December, arriving at the "Sugar Loaf" at Dunstable (Mr. Oliver's) at half-past four in the afternoon, where he had a dozen larks for supper. On the next morning, which was foggy with some small snow, Mr. and Mrs. Ruding proceeded on their way "just after we got through Stoke Golding ab^{t} 5 miles from Newport Pagnell the horse on which the boy rode fell, & lay upon the Boy's Leg who cry'd out that it was broke I got out to help him. Mad^{m} frighted out of her senses, wou'd get out too, & stood near 20 minutes over shoes and dirt, whilst I was getting the Boy from under the Horse; his leg was not broke; just at that time 2 return chaises belonging to Swan at Newport came up from Northampton, one of which took us to Northampton; had we not met with them

don't know how we shou'd have got there—got there ½ past four, we found Miss Preddy, her sister, Mr. Pointz, Brother to Lady Spencer, there, they were going to a ball at Mr. Brownsmith's at Great Houghton ab^{t} 3 miles from Northampton, they did not set out till after dark." After this delay Mr. and Mrs. Ruding arrived at Leicester on the following day, and on the last day of the year reached their home at Derby "just at 3 o'clock."

Here for the present we will leave the Diarist. His book of accounts gives us some curious particulars as to the mode and cost of travelling a hundred years ago, the way in which a country gentleman then spent the leisure at his command in London, the books he bought, the clothes he wore, the wines he drank, even the medicines he took.

Upon a future occasion further extracts may be given: what has now been read may perhaps have amused, if not instructed, the listeners.

THE RUDING DIARY.

Part II.*

In the year 1778 Mr. and Mrs. Ruding paid a visit to Matlock with a party of friends: Mrs. Robert Wilmot, Miss Wilmot and her maid were in one chaise; his daughter "Sally" and Mrs. Packwood in another; and Mrs. Ruding and himself in a third; Mr. Robert Wilmot and Rogers Ruding being on horseback. They set out from Derby to Matlock at half-past ten on the morning of Friday, July 23rd, and arrived there at ten minutes before one o'clock. There was, writes Mr. Ruding, a "deal of company, near sixty at Dinner," a Russian Princess, named Dashcau, her son, daughter, and son's tutor being amongst them. In the afternoon the party walked to the top of the rock opposite the house. On the next day they visited Chatsworth, returning to dinner at Matlock, after which—after five o'clock—they started for home, where they arrived after half-past seven: "my expence," enters Mr. Ruding, "I paid all except the post chaise for Mrs. Packwood and Sally £4. 18s. 1d., 6d. per night for ea. Bed."

"Mem^{d} the old Bath at Matlock was built in the year 1734 by Mr. Stephen Eggington."

A month later—on the 24th of August—Mr. and Mrs. Ruding, with their daughter "Sally," set out for a prolonged stay at Buxton. It extended from the 24th of August to the 8th of September. From the diarist's account of his daily expenditure it appears that he travelled in a chaise by way of Ashbourne to Buxton in four hours, and put up on his arrival at the Eagle and Child, then kept by a man named Wheeldon. In the modest expenditure of our great-

* This was read at a subsequent meeting, but it is thought better to give it here.

grandfathers' time a dinner for three at Ashbourne cost 4s. 6d., tea for three at Buxton 2s. and three suppers 3s. washed down with a pint of wine and a pint of ale costing together 1s. 5d. Next morning (the wind was very high in the night) after breakfast—which cost only 2s. for the three—Mr. Ruding began to drink the water. Dinner at 1s. tea at 8d. seems to have been the ordinary charges at Buxton. In the course of the day Mr. Ruding met Mr., Mrs. and Miss Bridge, from Middlewich in Cheshire. Mr. Bridge knew Dr. Ruding and the Diarist's sister and nephew Clifton, so this new acquaintanceship would be very agreeable to Mr. Ruding. On Wednesday, the 26th, our party walked to Fairfield, about a mile from Buxton. On the following two days nothing occurred worthy of particular notice, but on the evening of the 28th (there had been a dance at the White Hart on the previous evening) a dance took place at the house where the Rudings were staying, and sixteen couples took part in it. On the 29th Mr. Ruding and his friends drank tea with Mrs. Babington at the Hall Coffee House. The next day—Sunday—was showery, the following day was fair, clear and cold, Mr. Ruding "took a walk to the Lovers' Leap, solus:" in the evening another dance took place at the White Hart. On Tuesday, the 1st of September, Mrs. Babington, Mrs. Heyrick, and the youngest Miss Orton drank tea with Mr. and Mrs. Ruding. In company with "Sally, Mrs. Curry, Mrs. Copeland, Mrs. Harraway & Miss Younger" Mr. and Mrs. Ruding went to Pool's Hole after breakfast on the morning of Saturday the 5th, but "Mrs Copeland and self did not go in."

Having paid his barber—an important personage in the days of wigs—given his "tips" to the maid servants, waiter "Martha at the Well" and others, Mr. Ruding and his party commenced their return to Derby at a quarter-past ten on the morning of the 8th September. On their way they dined at the "Black Moor's Head" at Ashbourne, the name of the landlady being Houghton, a sister to Ben Oakes: "a very good house" writes Mr. Ruding, "Mem: always to go to that house." They arrived at home at a quarter-past five o'clock. Mr. Ruding concludes the items of his expenditure during this visit by noting:—"We lodg'd up 3 pair of stairs so paid nothing tho' a very good large room; her's [Sally's] a small and bad one." Apropos of this item the diarist also says:—"Sally lay the first night at Mr. Buxton's Apothecary, afterwards in a little room on the first floor at the Eagle and Child, for which we paid 3s. p. week." Mr. Ruding adds the following, which is a kind of Directory of Buxton at the time of his visit. It affords an amusing contrast to the Buxton of to-day:—

"Physicians at Buxton 1778.
"Dr. Bullock has attended many years.
Dr. Denman has attended lately.

Apothecary—Mr. Buxton related to Mrs. Beridge.
Landlord at the Eagle and Child, Wheeldon—Duke Devonshire.
Landlord at the White Hart, Wheeldon—Lord Scarsdale.
Landlord at the George, Kinsey—Deakin of Warrington, owner.
Landlord at the Angel, Booth—Moorwood, of Chesterfield, owner.
Landlord at the Hall, Hodgson—Duke of Devonshire.
Chapel of Ease at Buxton, belonging to Bakewell—Curate, Thorpe.
Minister at Fairfield ab^{t} a mile from Buxton—Waterhouse.
Barber next door to Eagle and Child, Ashton: Hairdresser D^{o} Wood.
Waiter at the Eagle and Child, John Needham, from ye George, Derby.
Draper &c, on the Top of the Hill, Bott, lets out Books to read.
Silversmith, a little lower, Barclay.
Shops in the semicircle, Linen Draper, Maclean,—Petrefact: works, Noel & Cooper; Saddler and Silversmith Pearson; one shop shut up; Linen draper under a shed on the right hand at the Bottom of the Hill, Maclean, Husband to the other.
3 days races at Fairfield Sep: 15: 16: 17. Silver Tankard the first day, 2 silver pints for ye other days."

Towards the close of the year in which Mr. Ruding visited Buxton he made his usual journey to London, for which place he and Mrs. Ruding set out on Thursday, the 26th November, 1778. His route lay through Leicester (where he stayed two nights), Northampton, Woburn, and S. Albans. On the 30th he arrived at his lodgings, Mrs. Watkins, No. 16, Mineral Water Warehouse, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden. He agreed to pay one guinea-and-a-half per week; the landlady to find sheets, table linen and towels; and the Constitution Tavern to dress his victuals and find knives, forks, plates, glasses, &c. Mr. Ruding was, as we have seen, no total abstainer; he paid on this occasion 2s. a bottle for his wine and 4s. a bottle each for his rum and brandy. As an item for tincture of rhubarb follows in his diary it may be inferred that a corrective was sometimes needed—an inference confirmed by a payment of £2. 2s. 0d. to his Surgeon (Mr. Brand) mentioned in another item. Turkeys were then sold in London at 4s. 6d. each; a lobster for 1s. 6d.; coals at 3s. 9d. a sack; a breast of mutton cost a shilling; a pair of worsted gloves 2s.; "Anticipation a pamphlet, 1s. 6d.;" and "12 bottles of red tincture 9s." Frequent payments for syrup of marsh mallows and advice obtained

from Mr. Brand ("I attended him every day for 3 weeks at his House in Leicester Fields at 2 Guineas per week") betray the continued ailments of Mr. Ruding; while items of payments for sham turtle &c. are equally significant of his simultaneous attachment to the good things of this life. He did not forget his friends: on the 8th of December he enters:—"ordered Mr. Ryder, Oysterman, at No. 63 the Axe in Aldermanbury to send a Barrel of Pyfleet oysters to Barwell, Bearley, Davie, Heyrick & Sis: Su: at Warwick and to pay Carriage." On the 13th Mr. Ruding "dined in Russell Street, Dr. King call'd there but did not dine there, Mr. Spencer & Mr. Wright, son of Justice Wright, who was nephew to the Recorder of Leicester, came in the afternoon." On Monday, December 28th, Mr. and Mrs. Ruding with son [?] "Rory" set out from Henrietta Street at half-past nine o'clock on their return to Derby. Miss Drought, a brewer's daughter of Oxford was a fellow passenger with them in the Post-coach. They reached Oxford at half-past eight in the evening, and there passed the night. They arrived at Warwick at half-past four o'clock in the afternoon of the following day, the 29th.

The new year, 1779, opened very boisterously; for Mr. Ruding informs us the chimnies of Mr. Sharpe the bookseller at Warwick and some of the Priory were blown down by the high winds of the preceding night. Mr. Ruding was, as we seen before, on visiting terms with Lord Warwick, whose brother, Mr. Charles Greville, called upon him on the 5th of January; on which day Mr. Ruding saw the model of the intended body of the low Parish Church and of the intended new Goal at Mr. Johnson's. On the 9th Mr. Ruding dined with Lord Warwick, his brother the Doctor, Clifton Ruding, Mr. Matthews, Lady Warwick and her two sisters being present. On the 12th of January the diarist was again at his home at Derby.

In July and August Mr. Ruding visited Leicester twice, where he dined with Mr. Noble, Mrs. Poynton, Mrs. Anderson, and some person named "George." On the 11th August Mr. Ruding with his wife, his daughter Sally, Walter Clifton and Mrs. Packwood set out for Oxford, arriving there at the "Star" at six o'clock in the evening. Next day they left Oxford in two chaises; reaching the "George and Blue Boar" in Maidenhead in the afternoon; of which Inn the diarist remarks "a dirty house—bugs in plenty." From Oxford they travelled to Rochester, and thence to Chatham where Mr. Ruding went on board the "Montague" a seventy-four-gun ship then almost finished: she was launched on Saturday the 24th: of the Inns at Chatham Mr. Ruding remarks "King's Head a skin-flint—Crown the best house." He noticed the following couplet on a gravestone in the minster yard at Rochester

> "Life is a cobweb be we e'er so gay,
> And death a broom that sweeps us all away."

From Rochester the party set out for Canterbury. At Dover they walked up to the castle. They saw the French coast, but, the weather being hazy, not clearly. On the 17th in the evening they walked to the top of Shakespeare's cliff, next day they dined at Canterbury. On the 19th they visited Cox Heath, where they saw the camp—twenty-one regiments, all infantry, under canvas. In the evening they were in London, sleeping that night at the Castle and Falcon, Aldersgate Street, which was, Mr. Ruding remarks, with the recollection of the Maidenhead Inn, "a very good clean house." On the 21st he, with a party of friends, visited Windsor Castle, where they gave "the woman" 5s., and the porter 1s.: later in the day they started homewards, staying at Warwick several days. The 24th was the first day of Warwick Races: "very little company," notes Mr. Ruding, "3 Horses: only 11 Couple danc'd at the Ball: Whitley's Company acted Monday 23rd &c. &c." On the next day "3 Horses, Heyworth, Matthews, and Ladbrook—won by Matthews; another horse enter'd at the Post, Matthews distanced ye 2d heat: only 8 couples danc'd at the Ball." On the 31st Mr. Ruding, as was his custom when at Warwick, "called of Ld Warwick, not at home, left a card." On the 2nd September Mr. and Mrs. Hiom dined with Mr. Ruding's friends, "Haunch of Venison." His stay at Warwick appears to have been a pleasant one; many merry meetings of friends: on the 6th when he dined with Mr. Hiom they went to the Theatre (probably "Whitley's Company") where they saw "School for Scandal and The Quaker." On the 8th September they again reached their home at Derby.

In the November of that year (1779) Mr. Ruding made his customary journey to London: the entries relating to this journey are so similar to those in preceding years that there is no need to quote many: on the 30th November he charges one penny for a "Search Ticket No. 37932 drawn a Blank ye 13th day."

On the first of December we find "pd for an Hood & Ferril to my walking stick, it is made of the Branches of the Cabbage Tree, in three pieces, splic'd together from Top to Bottom." As in former years, so now, Mr. Ruding's entries show a taste for flowers; he charges small sums for polianthus seed, pink seed, twenty sorts of annuals, and "Chinese Holyoak seeds:" he still enjoys going to the play, and sees this year "The Comedy of Errors." He buys a few books and a little medicine. On their return from town they stayed a night in Leicester, and arrived at Derby on the 27th of December, at half-past Two in the afternoon.

In the year 1780 Mr. Ruding, as usual, visited Leicester and Warwick in the summer and London in the winter, lodging at Mr. Thompson's, Stocking Trimmer, No. 185, nearly opposite S. Catharine's Street in the Strand. For several days Mr. Ruding

was confined to the house: on the 27th he enters "Pain & swelling on the right side of my right foot, could not bear a shoe: at home all day." The next day his foot was "not so bad as last night;" on the 29th there was a further improvement, "Foot swelled still, but not near so sore as it was;" on the 30th, "foot still swelled a little, soreness much abated;" on Sunday the 3rd his foot having "almost return'd to its usual Tranquility" our diarist "din'd with M^r & Mrs Thompson, their daughter & three rude noisy boys—Boil'd Beef, roasted Pig and Apple Pye." One is glad to read on the next day "got shoe on for ye first Time."

Mr. Ruding appears to have been in negociation with an agent named Rountree for the purchase of a living on behalf of "Rory:" the conditions not being considered advantageous to the purchaser the transaction was not completed: Mr. Ruding's account of the final interview is amusing, and perhaps characteristic of the "agent:"—"Dec: 16. Saturday, Dark & cloudy, moist Air: call'd of Rountree, told him Rory gave up the Living, as the Glebe cou'd not be exchanged, he look'd as fierce as a Lion, wish'd he never had any concern in it, nobody cou'd tell what trouble & expence he had been at: I ask'd him what he expected on that acc^t he said he would leave it to me, I offer'd two guineas, he said he w^d sooner have nothing, that if he was to make me a Lawyer's Bill he cou'd bring it to £20, thought I could not possibly give him less than a note for £10, I offer'd him 5 guineas, but he would not hear of it, after much disputing we agreed at last for 7 guineas, which he said was a great deal too little, & I said it was a great deal more than I thought he cou'd have ask'd, he said he wou'd not have so much trouble again for £50., & I thought he never shou'd on my Acc^t. He told me he believ'd he cou'd inform me of a Living in Yorkshire, but thank you for that, I beg'd to be excus'd, so paid him 7 Guineas, & we parted, not extremely well satisfy'd with each other. He seem'd much hurt at the affair's not going forward, had it done so, & he had the management throughout, dare say he wou'd have made a Bill as long as from here to Derby."

No doubt Mr. Ruding's mind was relieved when he had thus closed his connection with Mr. Rountree: on the same day he purchased a Lottery Ticket No. 20,819 for which he gave £13. 7s. 0d., and on the next day, being Sunday the 17th December he dined with his brother John on boiled beef, a hare and minced pies.

Mr. Ruding left London on the 23rd December travelling in the coach in company with Mr. Markhome, Fellow of Queens, and a young man of S. John's in the Berkshire Militia: nothing noteworthy occurred on the way excepting that when about "2 miles from Slough [they] overtook the King, Prince of Wales, Bishop of Osnaburgh, 3 other Princes & two Tutors walking along the Turnpike road, without any Guard or any other Attendants." After

spending Christmas at Warwick Mr. Ruding reached his own home at Derby on the 30th of December.

The diary from which so many extracts have been made contains only entries relating to one more year—1781: they relate as usual to a visit to Warwick, viâ Leicester, in July, and to one to London in November. The usual charges occur, including not only the purchase of a Lottery Ticket, but a credit of £19 17s. 0d. being the proceeds of a £20 prize less 3s. for prompt payment. There are two entries which perhaps some learned member can explain:—

Dec 18	Paid for 2 thingambobs	£4. 4s. 0d.
24	Paid for repairing a Thingambob...	£1. 1s. 0d.

Mr. Ruding reached his home at Derby on the last day of the year 1781.

The items relating to this last mentioned journey are the final ones in the book, which however is not full; there are eight blank leaves left.

It may be said there is little worth repeating in this, the private memorandum book of a gentleman living a hundred years ago; but to the student of the manners of that time there are many suggestive entries, which require little aid from the imagination to produce a picture of every-day life which should not be beneath the notice of the antiquary.

One more short note and we have done with Mr. Ruding, as we have already done with his Diary. His wife "A.R." as he constantly designates her—his companion on so many of his journeys—died at Derby on the 4th of March 1791, in the 70th year of her age, leaving her husband to mourn her loss for four years. He died at Warwick—I suppose at the house of his son-in-law Mr. Packwood—on the 27th of March 1795, being then in the 85th year of his age. He left four children, two sons—Walter and Rogers—and two daughters—Sarah the "Sally" so often mentioned in the Diary, and Ann, the Mrs. Packwood of Warwick, where he so often visited.

May 30th, 1881.

The Rev. Canon Pownall, F.S.A. in the chair.

The following gentlemen were elected members of the Society:—Messrs. Frank Winterton, Edward Lovell Clare and Theodore Walker, all of Leicester.

Mr. F. Agar exhibited a silver coin of Edward III. minted at London.

Mr. Herbert Watson exhibited a small cannon ball (culverin?) weighing two pounds two ounces, recently found about two feet below the surface of the ground, at the foot of a tree on Mr. Watson's ground at Lutterworth. No explanation could be given as to the cause of its having been deposited there.

Mr. Weatherhead exhibited the original grant of Arms made to certain members of the Halford family, upon which he read the following remarks :—

I exhibit a Grant of Arms (differencing thereof) relating to the Halford Family, dated January 1st, 1621 (*temp.* James I.), with the signature of the then *Clarencieux*, principal Herald and King of Arms of the south, east, and west parts of this realm of England, from the river Trent southward; with official seal attached enclosed in an ivory box. An official document, historically, locally, and in an antiquarian point of view of great interest and value. A document bearing the signature of one (then in his seventieth year) who lived in the several reigns of Edward VI., Mary, Elizabeth, and James I.; one of the most judicious and able writers any age or country can boast; and one of the most profound and erudite scholars of his time: a man who, notwithstanding his humble origin, lived to achieve the most marked distinction; who was an honour to his country, and his country conferred honour upon him, whose ashes repose in Westminster Abbey! Concerning this remarkable character, I append the following concise biographical sketch :—

William Camden, a celebrated antiquary and historian (called the Strabo of England), was born in the Old Bailey, London, May 2nd, 1551. His father, Sampson Camden, who was a native of Lichfield, settled in London, where he became a member of the Company of Painter-stainers. His mother, Elizabeth Camden, was of the ancient family of Curwen, and was daughter of Giles Curwen of Poulton Hall, co. Lancaster. Left an orphan and unprovided for he received his early education at Christ's Hospital, and St. Paul's School.

In 1566 he entered as a servitor of Magdalen College, Oxford; but being disappointed of a *demi*, he removed to Broadgate Hall, and somewhat more than two years afterwards to Christ Church, where he won the favour and, eventually, the patronage of his kind friend Dr. Thornton, the tutor of Sir Philip Sidney.

In 1571 Mr. Camden came to London, where he prosecuted his favourite study of antiquity, under the patronage of Dr. Goodman, Dean of Westminster, by whose interest he was made Second Master of Westminster School in 1575. From the time of his leaving the University to this period, being of studious habits and

of a retiring disposition he devoted his leisure hours and holidays to the study of antiquity; qualifying himself for deciphering ancient records and monumental inscriptions, by acquiring Gaelic, Welsh, and old Saxon; and travelling through the greater part of England, with a view to make observations and collect materials for his *Britannia*, on which he was then seriously engaged.

In 1581 he became intimately acquainted with the learned President Brisson, who was then in England.

In 1586 he published his first edition of the *Britannia*, or Survey of the British Isles (dedicated to Lord Burleigh) written in familiar and elegant Latin. This work was received with applause and esteemed an honour to its author, and the glory of his country. Thus brought into publicity, and looked upon as one of the most distinguished scholars of his age, the Bishop of Salisbury appointed him [though a layman] in 1588 prebend of Ilfracombe.

In 1593 he succeeded (by the Queen's request) to the head mastership of Westminster School, on the resignation of Dr. Grant.

In 1597 his *Greek Grammar* appeared, which was received in all the Colleges, and passed through forty editions. This same year (*temp.* Elizabeth) he was promoted by letters patent under the Great Seal of England, to be *Clarencieux, King-at-Arms;* but so modest and retiring was his disposition that a short time afterwards he declined the honour of knighthood.

In 1600 Camden made a tour to the North as far as Carlisle, accompanied by his friend and eminent English antiquary, Mr. [afterwards, Sir Robert Bruce] Cotton.

In 1606 he began his correspondence with the celebrated President de Thou, which continued to the death of that celebrated French historian.

In 1607 he published his last edition of the *Britannia* from which the several English editions have been made.

In 1608 he began to digest his materials for a history of the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

In 1609, after recovering from a dangerous illness, he retired to Chiselhurst in Kent, where he continued to spend the Summer months during the remainder of his life.

In 1613 the University conferred on him the degree of *Artium Magister*.

In 1615 the first part of his Annals of the Queen appeared, but contemporary events induced him to postpone the publication of the sequel until after his death.

In 1617 the work was entirely finished; considered next in celebrity to his *Britannia*. Amongst his other productions may be mentioned—*Anglica Normannicu Cambrica, &c., Reges, Reginæ, Nobiles, &c., Sylva Hibernia, &c.*

In 1622, being then upwards of seventy, he determined to lose no time in executing his design of founding a professorship of history at Oxford, for which he may be reckoned among the chief benefactors to that University. His deed of gift was accordingly transmitted by his friend Mr. Heather to Mr. Gregory Wheare, who was by himself appointed the first professor.

In 1623, November 9th, Camden died, in the 73rd year of his age, and was buried with great solemnity in Westminster Abbey (Nov. 19), in the south aisle, where a monument of white marble was erected to his memory. He was a man of singular modesty and integrity; profoundly learned in the history and antiquities of England; an adept scholar in the art, or science, pertaining to Heraldic lore; and a judicious and conscientious historian. His character is thus summed up by one of his biographers: "In his writings he was candid and modest; in his conversation easy and innocent; and in his whole life even and exemplary; when he was young, learned men were his patrons; when he grew up the learned were his intimates; and when he became old he was the patron of the learned; so that learning was his only study, and learned men his only society." Camden cherished with fond remembrance to the last his humble origin, and possessed those great qualifications of an antiquary, patience, assiduity, and enthusiasm.

The "Camden Society," founded in 1838 for historical research, was so named in honour and recognition of the public worth of this author.

His *Britannia* was first translated into English by Dr. Philemon Holland in 1611, who also published a later edition in 1636.

A new translation, made with the utmost fidelity from the last named edition, was published in 1695 by Edmund Gibson, of Queen's College, Oxford, afterwards Bishop of London.

Gibson's edition was reprinted in 1722, and several times subsequently.

The latest and best editions are those by Gough, 1789-90, and by Gough and Nichols (4 vols. fol.), 1806—Nichols being the celebrated author of the *History and Antiquities of the Town and County of Leicester*.

On the discovery of Gunpowder Plot, the King directed Camden to translate the account of the trial of the conspirators into Latin, which was published in 1607.

A copy of the Grant above referred to is here appended:—

> To ALL AND SINGULER AS well Nobles and gentlemen, as others, to whom theis presents shall come, William Camden Esq, alias Clarenceux principall Herauld and Kinge of Armes of the South East and West parts of this Realme of England from ye river of Trent southward sendeth greetinge in o^r^ Lord God everlasting Knowe ye y^t^ for as much as it hath beene an auncient custome and

to this day is continued in all countryes & common wealthes well governed y^t ye hono^ble actes & virtuous indeavours of worthy men from tyme to tyme have beene remembred & recommended to posterity by certaine tokens and remembrances of Honor comonly called Armes, being the outward demontrac'ons of their inward virtues, inciting others by their good examples to ye imitac'on of their like laudable workes & worthy acheivements, dureing this transitory life. W^ch said tokens of Honor are diversly dist'ibuted accordinge to ye qualities of ye parties so demeriteing ye same to ye end y^t such as have done com'endable service to ther Prince or Country, either in warre or peace may therefore both receive due honour in their lives, & also derive ye same successively to their posteritie for evermore. In wch respect whereas William Holford of Welham in ye county of Leicester Esq. high sheriffe of ye same County A^o 1616, Richard Holford of Wistow Esq. at this present high sheriffe of ye said Countie & Richard Holford of Edithweston in ye countie of Rutland Esq. high sheriffe also of ye said Countie of Rutland A^o 1610, being descended of a ffamylie aunciently bearinge Armes, vizt Azure upon a fesse Argent between three flouredeluces Or, a Greyhound currant Sables as appeareth by an ancient Visitac'on of ye County of Cambridg, now remaineing in ye office of Armes, have requested me ye said Clarenceux, so to difference ye said coate of Armes, as y^t they and their successours may beare ye same w^thout prejudice, to any of those of Cambridgshire, or to y^t more auncient Cheshire ffamilie of Holford of Holford, from whence originally they derive themselves, & took their surname. All wch y^ey likewise desired y^t I would not onely blazon, but also exemplifie, and testifie; whereunto I could not but condisce^nd to such a reasonable request, wherein haveing made search accordingly & weighed every mans right consideratly, doe find y^t they may lawfully beare Argent a Greyhound sables, upon a cheife azure, three fflouredeluces Gold & for their Creast upon an helme & wreath of their colours, A Greyhounds head sables, the collour territed, & studded Gold, mantled Gules, Doubled Argent, as more plainely appeareth depicted in ye marg^t The wch Armes & Creast, & every part & parcell thereof, I ye said Clarenceux King of Armes by power & authoritie unto myne office annexed & granted by l'res patents under ye great seale of England, have ratified confirmed & allowed, & by theis p'sents given & granted unto & for ye said William, Richard, & Richard Holford, & to their Heires & posteritie for ever, to use, beare & set fourth in shield, coatearmo' or otherwise wth there due differences at their, or any of their liberties, & pleasures, accordinge to ye ancient lawe of Armes, w^thout impediment, let, or interrupc'on of any pson or psons whatsoever. In wittnes whereof, I ye said Clarenceux King of Armes, have signed theis presents wth my hand, & thereunto put ye seale of myne office ye first day of January An^o Do'm 1621 in ye nineteenth yeare of ye reigne of o^r Soveraigne Lord James by ye grace of God King of England France & Ireland Defendou' of ye faith &c, & of Scotland ye five & ffivetieth.

Will'm Camden Clarenceux
King of Armes.

[The legend surrounding the official seal is:—
S · OFFICII · CLARENCIEVIX · REGIS · ARMORIS · PARTIS · AVSTRALIS.]

The Chairman then exhibited some coins of King Stephen's time, namely: 1. Penny of Stephen engraved in the *Numismatic Chronicle*, 1862, showing a cross, extending across the coin, and thereby effacing Stephen. 2. Penny of Stephen, one of the Nottingham find, January, 1880, showing a shorter cross not extending beyond the portion of the field in which lies the head of the King; more clearly displaying the intention of the person who tampered with the die. 3. Penny of Stephen. Nottingham find. 4. Broken penny of Stephen. Nottingham find. 5. Fragments from the find, showing the state in which the coins were found. 6. Dollar of Charles IV. of Spain, countermarked. He read a Paper in connection with them, entitled, "A Numismatic Incident in the Reign of King Stephen—1135-1154," which is printed in the volume of the Associated Societies for the year 1881.

The Rev. W. G. Dimock Fletcher, M.A., of Oxford, contributed the following

NOTES ON LEICESTERSHIRE MSS. IN THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE AND OUR NATIONAL LIBRARIES.

Leicestershire as a County has been very fortunate in its historians. We have Burton, one of the very earliest, and certainly a most careful writer, to whom we are especially indebted for his accurate description of all the arms and monuments remaining in the churches in 1622. And then we have Throsby, with his interesting gossiping volumes. But above all Nichols, the fullest of all County Historians, whose eight folio volumes will always be held by Topographers and Antiquaries in the highest estimation. And if his History does contain a great many accounts of thunderstorms and fires, of no general interest, and which therefore might have been safely omitted, still it is so full of useful information that one can charitably overlook all its faults.

Our modern writers, Potter and Curtis and Reeve and Hill and Thompson and North and Kelly, who have each contributed their quota towards elucidating the History and Antiquities of Leicestershire, I need not mention; their names are an household word in this County.

What all our local antiquaries should aim at, is to bring out a new and revised edition of Nichols, with the genealogies, and all the historical and topographical portions of the work, corrected and brought down to the present time. We want that doing for Leicestershire which the careful editors of Hutchins and Ormerod have been doing for Dorsetshire and Cheshire. The scarcity and costliness of Nichols is well known. The work needs to be re-edited and reissued under the auspices of this Society.

Good, however, as Nichols' History is, it is nevertheless very imperfect and incomplete. Because numbers of documents are not to be found in it, which ought to have been printed; and during the past fifty years much additional information has come to light, illustrative of the history of our County. Mr. Nichols did not make enough use of the Public Records; indeed in his day they were scarcely accessible; now there is no difficulty in searching, the documents are carefully arranged, and there are excellent indexes to aid the student. Before Nichols' History can be reprinted, these documents must very carefully be searched; and they will be found to yield stores of precious information that has never yet seen the light.

Upwards of twenty-five years ago an attempt was made to reissue Nichols' History, under the editorship of the late Mr. T. R. Potter; but, for reasons which I need not here name, the attempt fell through.

It is not generally known, or else it is forgotten, that in 1869 the Rev. J. H. Hill (to whom Leicestershire is indebted for his excellent "Gartree Hundred") proposed to reprint Nichols' West Goscote, at the extremely moderate subscription price of five guineas. This is the scarcest of all the eight volumes, being worth far more than the other seven put together; and a copy could not probably be purchased for £80. Strangely enough, Mr. Hill's laudable attempt fell through, owing to lack of support. It does seem remarkable that out of the whole County of Leicester only forty subscribers could be found to a reprint of the excessively rare "West Goscote!" Mr. Hill has still the MSS., quite ready for the press; and I believe he would reprint the volume if sufficient subscribers came forward. Could not this Society make an effort to obtain a sufficient number of subscribers to enable him to reprint this volume? Surely a little effort would bring many persons, especially those resident in the Hundred of Goscote, who would be willing to subscribe to a new issue of that valuable volume! Shall we not try and take the matter up?

It has been suggested to me that it might be useful to point out, for the benefit of persons interested in Leicestershire Topography and Genealogies, some of the documents relating to the County deposited in the Public Record Office and the great National Libraries of England. And as I have made myself in some measure acquainted with the Leicestershire MSS. contained in them, I venture to give some hints which may facilitate the labours of those students who are thinking of searching. But I trust you will pardon any imperfection in my lists of MSS., as I can do little more than glance at some of the many sources of local information.

And first as to the *Public Record Office*. The stores of documents relating to Leicestershire are so countless, that it will be

best just to enumerate a few of the principal sources from which information most likely to be useful to the Topographer and Genealogist can be obtained. No modern County Historian could venture to write a County History without making long searches at the Public Record Office. Indeed one County History—Plantagenet Harrison's History of Yorkshire—has lately been published, which is written *entirely* from information derived from this office; and the pedigrees in this volume extend back many generations earlier than those in any similar book; the Manorial History, too, is unusually complete.

The Charter Rolls, Patent Rolls, and Close Rolls, are mines of wealth to the topographer. They each commence with the reign of King John; and contain grants of manors, lands, offices, honours, markets, free-warrens, fairs, &c., &c. Nichols has partially used these in his History, but still there are vast numbers of Leicestershire Grants unrecorded by him to be found there. The Commissioners printed lists of some of the earlier Rolls; but these lists are often inaccurate and incomplete. A good Calendar of the Close Rolls, arranged in years under Counties, is now being made. There is no perfect Calendar to the Patent Rolls, but in what are known as Palmer's Indexes there are good *Indices Locorum.*

The *Placita,* or Plea Rolls, are of immense value, yet are very little known, and are almost wholly unindexed. Indeed the History of Yorkshire, above referred to, is almost wholly compiled from these Rolls. They contain the pleadings in our several courts, and the judgments thereon, and relate to nearly every estate in the kingdom.

The proceedings in the Court of *Chancery* consist of Bills and Answers, &c., Depositions by Commission, and Decrees; and commence as early as the reign of Richard II. There are printed Calendars to the proceedings during the reign of Elizabeth only. The proceedings in the Court of *Exchequer* commence in the reign of Edward I. A Calendar to some of these proceedings will be found in Martin's Index, published in 1819. Indices to the Special Commissions, and the Depositions by Commission, from the reign of Elizabeth, have been printed in the annual Reports of the Deputy Keeper, and are still in progress. They have already been brought to the end of the reign of George I. Amongst the Special Commissions I find there are 109 matters relating to Leicestershire, and amongst the Depositions by Commission 220. I have a list of these. In many of the Bill and Answer Books the County is given, as well as the names of the Plaintiff and Defendant, so that it is not difficult to single out the Leicestershire suits.

The *Pedes Finium* are complete from the reign of Henry II. There are excellent Indexes, arranged in years under Counties, which enable the Topographer at once to select the Leicestershire Fines and Recoveries. They give the name of the freeholder levy-

ing the fine, his wife, and the situation and quantity of his estate.

The Inquisitiones Post Mortem commence with the reign of Henry III., and are extremely important to Topographers, as they tell us the names of every tenant in capite, of what lands he died seized, by what rents or services the same were held, who was his heir and of what age the heir then was. There are three sets of these Inquisitions, viz., the Exchequer, Chancery, and Court of Wards and Liveries. A list of the Exchequer Inquisitions was printed in the Deputy-Keeper's Tenth Report for 1849. A Calendar of the Chancery Inquisitions from Henry III. to Richard III. has been published, but is very incomplete. There is, however, a good MS. Index in nine volumes; and also a good MS. Index in two volumes of the Court of Wards and Liveries Inquisitions, in alphabetical order, with the Counties prefixed, thus:—

"Leic. ffarneham Tho. 65. m. & h. term. 19 Jac. I."

The *Lay Subsidy* Rolls are extremely valuable, as they contain the names of all the King's Tenants in capite, arranged under villages, with the amounts they paid to aid him in his wars, &c. They extend from Edward III. to Charles II., and contain the names of all the most important persons in every town and village. The earliest Leicestershire Roll is in 1 Edw. III., and is in a splendid state of preservation. It has this heading, "Rotuli "Hugonis de Prestewold et Rogeri de Belegrave taxāt' vicesime in "cōm. leyc. domino Regi E. tertio post conquestum anno regni "sui primo concesse." Under Loughborough, no less than twenty-seven persons are named, with the amount each paid. The latest Leicestershire Roll is the Hearth Tax of 25 Car. II., and contains the name of every householder in Leicestershire, with the number of fire-hearths in his house. Under Loughborough, 229 persons are named, under Knight-thorpe ten, under Maplewell two, under Cotes ten, and so on. Between these two there are several hundred Rolls, more or less perfect, relating to our County.

There are also lists of Leicestershire *Church Goods, temp.* Edward VI., but these do not relate to the whole of the county. The *Royalist Composition Papers*, too, deserve notice.

Of course there are vast numbers of other Leicestershire documents in the P. R. O., *e.g.* the Domesday Book, and numerous Charters and Inrolments, Inquisitiones, Rotuli, and Placita, &c., &c., but those few I have named seem to me to be most useful to the topographer and genealogist.

Amongst Mr. Palmer's Calendars, there are several which relate especially to Leicestershire. Cal. 127 contains Grants, &c., in com. Leicester from Hen. VIII. to Jac. I.; Cal. 123 has a list of 24 grants of Fee Farm Rents from Hen. VIII. to Cha. I.; Cal.

113 contains Inquisitions post mortem in com. Leic. from Hen. VII. to Cha. I. Agarde's Indexes in the Exchequer also contain references to valuable Leicestershire documents.

Many valuable lists of documents have been published in the Deputy-Keeper's Annual Reports; and of these, I would especially name the Exchequer Depositions by Commission, in the 1877 to 1881 Reports; the Awards of Inclosure Commissioners, enrolled in the Chancery, Queen's Bench, Common Pleas, and Duchy of Lancaster, commencing 1756, and containing no less than 93 Leicestershire Awards and nine Plans, in the 1865 and 1866 Reports.

I may add that there is no fee charged at the Public Record Office for searching for documents, and one may make copies of, or extracts from, any Records at pleasure.

Next to the Public Record Office, the *British Museum* contains the largest number of Leicestershire documents. Many of these MSS. are copies of Placita, Rotuli, Inquisitiones, &c., in the P. R. O., and for a list of them I would refer you to Sims's invaluable "Manual for the Genealogist, &c." I can only here mention those MSS. which especially relate to the county. These are as follows:—

Domesday Book. Harl. 6016, fo. 89.

Cartularies. Burton Lazar's Hospital. Cott. Nero C. xii.
Gerondon. Lansd. 415.
Leicester, "Charite." Cott. Vitell. F. xvii.
Woodford, of Ashby Folville. Cott. Claudius A. xiii.

Aids in Com. Leic. granted Edw. III. 1347. Harl. 6700.

Knights Fees in com. Leic. Cott. Tiberius D. xx. fo. 89b; Harl. 6700.

Placita de Itinere in com. Leic. 5, 6, 11, and 12, Hen. III. Add. 12,269.

"Names of Popish Recusants convict, and Papists who have registered their estates, &c.," about 30 names. Add. 15,629, fo. 29, 30.

Spirytuall Receipts com. Leic.; and Abstracts of Crown Grants, Edw. I. to Edw. III. Harl. 6700.

Sequestrators in England, 1642 to 1652. Add. 5478, &c.

Leicestershire gentlemen who compounded for their estates, *temp.* Car. I. Harl. 2043, fo. 38b.

Returns to Parliament in all Counties, 1702 and 1710. Add. 15,661.

Names of Knights in Counties. Lansd. 855; Harl. 5803.

Names of Lords of every Manor, 1316-1559. Harl. 6281.

Heraldic Collections. Visitation 1563. Add. 17,065; Harl. 810.
Visitation 1619. Harl. 6125, 6183, 1431, 1187, 1189, 1180, 1195.
Pedigrees of Leicester Families. Harl. 6590.
Pedigrees and Arms, by Nich. Charles. Harl. 1113.
Pedigree of Smith of Queniborough to 1764. Add. 14,844d.

Burton's Leicestershire, additions by Vernon. Add. 10,126.
Lyson's Collections for Leicestershire. Add. 9458.
Powell's ,, ,, Add. 17,462.
Upcott's ,, ,, Add. 15,922.
Devon's ,, ,, Add. 24,801.

[This valuable volume contains excellent lists of Leic. MSS. in the Harl., Lansd., Cott., and Add. Collections; also the following documents:—Translation of Foundation Deed of Ashby School, 10th Aug. 1567; Lease of the Manor of Kirkby Mallory from Convent of S. Mary de Pratis to Thomas Dylke, 26 Hen. VIII.; Inquis. ad quod Dam. Wigston's Hospital, 11 Hen. VIII.; Ordinatio Vicarie de Overton; Endowment of the Vicarage of Rothley, &c., &c.]

Abstracts of Crown Grants of Lands in com. Leic. Add. 6059.
List of persons of note in Counties. Cott. Titus B.I. p. 124.
Lists of Justices of Peace. Harl. 474, 7512. An. 1579, B.M. Roy. MS. 18. D. iii. An. 1582, Land. MS. 35. An. 1587, Land. MS. 53.
Extracts from the Registers of Diocese of Lincoln. Harl. 6950-6954.
Taxatio Parochiarum Lincoln. Cott. Vesp. D. xxviii.
Hunter's Collections for Leicestershire. Add. 24, 461 and 24, 465.

[These valuable volumes contain information relating to Newbold-Verdon, Great Thornton, Statherne, Halstead, Bradgate, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Kirkby Belers (abstract of an interesting Chronicle in Hale's MS. lxxiii, from 1197 to 1534) Market Harborough, Bredon, Loseby, Cossington, Bradley, Reresby, Sixtonby, Melton Mowbray; the Earldom; Wilson's Deeds; and the families of Phillipps of Garendon, Lord Wharton, Faunt, Nele, Bellers, &c., &c., &c.]

Hunter's Museum Pocket Books, amongst the Add. MSS.
Hunter's Abstracts of Escheat Rolls, &c. Edw. III. to Hen. VIII. Add. MSS. 24, 506 and 24, 507.

[Relate to the families of Hastings, Holand, Chaworth, Ferrars, Grey de Wilton, Manny, Tyletot, Basset, Belers, Furnival, Roos, Scrope, Zouch, Latimer, Maundevyll, Seynteler, Earl of Somerset, de Montford, Vere, Vilers, Berkley, Stafford, Swillington, Greystock, Merbury, Beaumont, Bonvil, Dakyn, Harington, Malory, Blount, Lucy, Nevill, Pole, Roskyn, Norres, Ormond, Hardwik, Parr, Willoughby, Brukby, Kyrton, Marquis of Dorset, Bigod, Babington, Chicheley, Burton, Dockray, Cromwell, Stansfeld, Strelley, Earl of Huntingdon, &c., &c.]

Randle Holme's Leic. Church Notes. Harl. 2129.

[Relate to Kirby Bellers, Thurleston, Melton Mowbray, Gadesby, Loughborough, Leicester (S. Margaret's, S. Mary's and S. Nicholas), Blaby, Brookesby, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Loseby, Barrow, Bottesford, Muston, Thorpe Arnold, Wymondham, Prestwold, Gouldby, Goodby Morwood, Skevington, Stanton Wivile, Knaptoft, Tilton, Sibston, Lutterworth, Bitswell, Catthorpe, Stony Stanton, Launde Abbey, Stookstone, Barwell, Elmesthorpe, Misterton, Snareston, Packington, Coston, Swepston, Drayton, Hinckley, Pigleton, Frolesworth, Church Langton, Gumley, Castle Donnington, and Medbourne.]

Notes to Willis's Abbeys, &c. Add. 5827.

Parish Registers of Somerby, 1601 to 1715. Add. 24, 802.

Papers relating to the Hastings Family. Harl. 3881, 4774, 4849.

Staveley's MS. History and Antiquities of Leicester. Add. 15,917.

Wm. Burton's History of Lindley, co. Leicester. Add. 6046.

The *Cottonian* MSS. in the British Museum contain the following which relate to Leicestershire :—

Aug : II. 135. Inspeximus of King Edward I. of several charters by which King Henry III. granted the honor of Leicester, &c. to his son Edmund, 1285.

Vesp. D. X. 131. Charters of Henry II. &c. *re* the honor of Leicester.

Vitell : F. 17. Repertorium chartarum Abbatiæ de Leic : per Wm. Charite.

Nero. D. X. 143. Matriculus dñi Ep. Linc. de omnibus ecclesiis in Archd : Leic : 1220. Peter's pence and pensions.

Nero. D. X. 157b. Taxation of spiritualities and temporalities of the Abbot and Convent of Leicester, by Oliver, Bishop of Lincoln, 1292.

The *Lansdowne* MSS. in the British Museum contain these Leicestershire ones :—

47. 21. Dier's Certificate of Rent answered for heriots in co. Leicester &c. 1586.
90. 23. Letter from Gilbert Earl of Shrewsbury concerning the tumultuous proceedings in Leicestershire &c.; the mob throwing open Inclosures, &c. 1607.
109. 67. Manors in Leicestershire belonging to the Marquis of Dorset.
447. 1. Foundation Charter of Leycester Abbey.
855. 3. Leicestershire Knights. 15th cent.
963. 58. Dates of foundation of Abbeys in Leicestershire, &c.

Of the *Harleian* MSS. in the British Museum, there are at least sixty-five which relate to Leicestershire. They are too numerous to be detailed here. Excellent Indexes have been printed; and a reference to these, *sub voce* "Leicester," will show what they comprise. It is sufficient to note here that they relate to the Town and County; Abbey, Convents, Forest and Frith, Churches; Survey of Crown Lands, Earls, Lists of Gentlemen, Grants, Knights' Fees, Sheriffs, Heralds' Visitations, Pedigrees, Arms and Heraldic Collections relative to Leicestershire families.

In addition to the above MSS., there are also some Leicestershire Charters in the British Museum. I think the above list contains most of the important MSS. in our great National Library relating to Leicestershire.

The Bodleian Library at Oxford is very rich in MSS. relating to Leicestershire. It contains the collections of Ashmole, Rawlinson, Dodesworth, Gough, Carte, Wood, &c., &c.

The *Charters*, of which a capital Calendar has lately been printed, relate to the following places :—Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Packington, Framland Hundred, Alton Grange, Burton Lazars, Burton Overy, Enderby, Foxton, Queniborough, Hinckley, Leicester, Leicester Abbey-de-la-Pre, Mowesley, Packington, Sadyngton, Sternesworth, Stoughton, Billesdon, Great and Little Stretton, Wythcote, Berneton, Bringhurst, Osulveston Priory, Slawston, &c.

The *Carte* MSS. comprise five volumes, styled the "Huntingdon Collection," which Carte obtained from Sir John Davys, whose daughter Lucy married the Earl of Huntingdon. They are numbered 76, 77, 78, 205, and 228, and contain much valuable Leicestershire information.

Carte MS. 77 contains a "Survey of the Churches, their value and Incumbents, in Leicestershire;" Order of the Lords of the Council to the High Sheriff of Leicester and the mayor for Shipmoney 12 August 1635 (fo. 193); Notes of Deeds from the Corporation of Leicester to the Earl of Huntingdon (fo. 277);

Letter of the Mayor of Bristol to the Earl of Huntingdon, Lord Lieut. of Leicester and Rutland, about the Levy of Men for Ireland out of those Counties, 4 March 1601 (fo. 278); names of gentlemen in Leicestershire who contributed to the Palatine, 1622 (fo. 279); Services rendered by Sir John Skipwith to the Stuarts (fo. 280).

Carte MS. 78 contains (inter alia) the Freeholders' Book for co. Leicester, 1630 (fo. 1); Letters from the Mayor and Corporation of Leicester; Instructions for executing Commission for Knighthood, with list of names, and fines to be paid for refusing same (fos. 18, 21, &c.); names of those returned by the under-sheriff at Ashby 30 Sept. 1630 (fo. 19); Record of Privilege of Great Bowden from toll and charge (fo. 20); names of persons with above £40. a year land in co. Leic., and are not knights, 1631 (fo. 22, 24); Penalties laid at the Swanymote Court for the Forest of Leicester, 1600 (fo. 23); names of persons in co. Leic. who pleaded that they had not £40. per ann. at the King's Coronation (fo. 26); Inquisition for Leicester Forest, 1623 (fo. 27); Instructions for Survey of the Kings's Parks, 1626 (fo. 31); divers papers relating to Leicester Forest; Order of K. James I. to Justices of Leic. about Alehouses (fo. 31); List of Patents to John and Edw. Lord Hastings and Henry Earl of Huntingdon (fos. 35, 36); numerous documents relating to the Hastings family (fos. 35-250); Deeds relating to Loughborough, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Belton, Whatton, Leicester, Kirby, Braunstone, Enderby, Evington, Hinkley, Glenn, Burton Overy, Billesdon, Stoughton, Gracedieu, Gopshall, Thrinkstone, Shankton, Knapton, Blackfordby, Oadby, Castle Donington, &c.; Feoffment of Manor of Stony Stanton from Robert Moton to his son Reynolds, 14 Hen. VI. (fo. 72). A most valuable Leicestershire MS.

Carte 1769. 0000. fo. 2. Grant of Priory of Hinkley to the Abbey of Mountgrace.

Carte 1769. *EEEE*. fo. 248. Endowment of the Vicarage of Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

There is at present no good printed Catalogue of the Carte MSS.

The *Ashmolean* MSS. contain some good Leic. documents; but as there is an excellent printed Catalogue, I will only mention two or three of the more important MSS.

Ashm. 798. Contains John Vincent's drawings of the Arms and Seals of the Town of Leicester (with the names of the Mayor and other officers), and of thirty-one Coats of Arms of the Gentry, taken at the Visitation of Leic. in 1619, (fo. 1-6.); Pedigree of Barret of Wimeswold (fo. 7.); Pedigree of Smalley of Belton (fo. 8.), Harcourt (fo. 9, 10), Eyre (fo. 15).

Ashm. 834. Grant of Crest to Andrew Nouell of Dalby, 1582. (fo. 39 b).

Ashm. 844. Leicestershire Tenants in Domesday Book (fo. 18);

Pedigrees of Basset and Roos (fo. 108), Earls of Leicester (fos. 46, 94), Chester and Despencer; Confirmations of Arms to Baynbrigge of Lockington (fos. 237, 238 b.), and Chamber of Gaddesby (fo. 207).

Ashm. 848. Leic. Charters from Duchy of Lancaster (fo. 62 b).

Ashm. 858. Grants of Arms to Nowell of Dalby, and Kendall (fos. 40 and 109).

Ashm. 866. Collections for a Feudal History of England, Leic. (fos. 199-201).

Ashm. 1137. Inscription at Leicester concerning John and Mary Erick.

I would here mention that there are numerous documents relating to the *Hastings* family of co. Leicester, which will be found indexed in the printed catalogues to the Ashmole, Rawlinson, Tanner, and Dodsworth MSS., under the word "Hastings." They are too numerous to specify here.

Amongst the *Gough* MSS., there are but very few which relate to Leicestershire. They are as follows:—

Gough MS. 1. Statutes, &c., for governing Mr. Hill's Charity School at Thurcaston.

Gough MS. 2. Shackerstone Parish Register, 1558 to 1630. Of this a transcript has been given in the Society's Transactions.

Gough Nichols MS. 5. Gough's Tour in Leicestershire.

A little book, entitled "Proper tables and easie rules, &c.," 1576, contains MS. notes by William Davy, Schoolmaster in Leicester about 1675, including a list of Mayors from 1203 to 1700, and numerous local events, &c. The reference is "Leic. Gough's Adds. 8vo. 16." There are also some extracts from Gascoigne's Additions to Burton amongst the Gough Books. (Gough. Leic. 1.)

There are numerous Leicestershire Drawings and Engravings in Vol. xv. and Vol. D. of Gough's Prints and Drawings. There is a good printed Catalogue of the original Gough Books and MSS., but not to the Additions.

The *Wood* MSS. have no Leicestershire ones. But in Wood MS., F. 7, (8469) are Pedigrees of Bainbrigge and Gulson; and in Wood MS. C. 11, (8551) are some Loughborough Church Notes. The extracts from the Matriculation Registers, and Books of Admission to Degrees, of course contain many Leicestershire names. Wood MS. 8495, has a List of Gentry in England. There is a rough printed Catalogue, but none sufficiently detailed.

The *Tanner* MSS. have these relating to Leicestershire:—

Letters from the Justices of co. Leic. 1621-2. 73, fo. 46; and 243, fo. 28b.

Certificate of Survey of the goods in every church and chapel in West Goscote, 1552. 343, fo. 7n.

Returns of trained bands in Leic. 121, fo. 74.

Letters concerning the Civil War. 57, 58, 59, 60, 62, and 89.

Delinquents. 59 and 61.

"Capitulum generale canonicorum regularium ord. S. Aug. ibi [*i.e.* Leicester] celebratum," 1431. 196, fo. 166.

Hastings Pedigrees, &c. 257, fo. 24b, &c. There is a good printed Catalogue.

The *Rawlinson* MSS. contain several Leicestershire ones:—

Wm. Burton's Collections for Leic. (Transcript). B. 350.

Notes out of Burton's History. B. 275, fo. 63; and 278, fo. 269.

Account of Burton and his family. C. 146. fo. 359.

List of Knights in the County, and their Arms, temp. Edw. II. B. 350. fo. 40.

Letters from the Commissioners for the County, 1655, A. 32, fo. 867; and 33 fo. 523.

Address to Richard Cromwell on his succession to the Protectorate, signed by the inhabitants of the County. A. 61. fos. 164-186.

Arms of Leic. families, B. 103 fo. 246; B. 278. fo. 259.

Ditto from Burton. B. 278. fo. 269.

Particulars of lands lately belonging to the Abbey of S. Mary de Pratis, 1609 to 1612, B. 253.

Genealogical extracts from a MS. formerly belonging to the Abbey. B. 103.

Descents of the Saxon Earls of Leicester. B. 77 and 278.

Descents of the Norman Earls. B. 103, 133, 142, and 313.

Leicestershire Pedigrees, passim in B. 73-84. (Wilkinson's Collections.)

Terrier of Manor of Queniborough, 1714. B. 348.

Hastings Pedigrees, &c., in B. 66, 76, 88, 103, 142, 144, 313, 314, 319, 470.

Collections relating to the County of Leicester during the Civil Wars, by Nicholas Strelley of West Langton. Misc. 116.

[A list of the contents of this valuable Leic: MS. is printed in Nichols' Leicestershire IV. 1046-7.]

The Catalogues to the Rawlinson MSS. are partly printed.

The Collections of *John Leland*, the Author of the "Itinerary," are in the Bodleian Library. *Leland* MS. 1 (5102) contains papers relating to Bredon, fo. 40; Eccl. Canon. de Leic. fo. 34; New College or Hospital at Leicester, fo. 42; Landa in Leic. fo. 68; Osulveston, fo. 69; Monastery de Pratis at Leicester, fo. 70. *Leland* MS. 3. (5104) contains collections for the County. MS. vol. 1 of the Itinerary (5107), at fos. 15-25, relates to Leicestershire.

Marshal MS. 73 (5305.) consists of Notes from the MS. of the Greek Test. at the Town Hall, Leicester. (Codex Leicestriensis.)

Laud MS. 72. (1335) "Charite" Rentale, S. Mary de Pratis.

Dugdale MS. 1.A.1. (6491) has Domesday Book and Collections for Leic: Dugdale MS. 12. F. 2. (6502) contains Transcripts from the Registers of the Abbey of Leicester. Dugdale MS. 220 (6512) contains list of gentry in England.

The *Dodesworth* MSS. in the Bodleian Library are the most valuable for Topographical and Genealogical information; and many of them relate partially to Leicestershire. An Index of names and places has been printed to the first seven volumes only. I believe that other volumes are now being catalogued. I mention a few of the Leic. MSS.

Dodesworth MS. 25. (4167) at fo. 100, Carta fundat. Abbatiæ de Pratis in Leic.

Dod. 76. (5018) fo. 1. Deed of the Priors of Leicester, Belvoir, and Bredon, redressing the grievances of the Nuns of Stamford.

Dod. 47 (4189), 79 (5030), and 112 (5053). Knight's Fees.

Dod. 59, &c. (5001, &c.) Inquisitiones post mortem, John to Edw. III.

Dod. 94-97 (5037). Placita, *temp.* King John.

Dod. 107 (5048). Collections relating to the Archdeaconry of Leic.

Dod. 33 (4175). Placita de banco in com. Leic. 4 Edw. I.

Dod. 35 (4177), at fo. 86. Names and arms of Leic. Knights, &c.

Dod. 47 (4189). Liber Rub. Scaccarii. Introitus ad Scutagia (fo. 59); Tenentes de rege in capite, Leic. (fo. 132); Inquisitiones de honoribus eschætis, 13 Ric. John, &c. Leic. (fo. 148).

Dod. 88 (5029), fo. 19. Inscriptions in Leic. churches.

Dod. 89 (5030). Tenants in capite and Knight's fees, Leic. 12 Hen. II. (fo. 19).

Dod. 114 (5055) Carta facta Edmundo filio Regis de Honore de Leic. an. 53 Hen. III. (fo. 54).

Dod. 115, fo. 234 (5056). Inquisitio de Man: Barrow-on-Soar, 49 Edw. III.

Dod. 123, fo. 81 (5064). Escheats in co. Leic: *temp.* Edw. I.

Dod. 145, fo. 61 (5086). Notes from Burton's Leicestershire.

Dod. 2, has grant to Leic. Abbey de Pratis (fo. 56b), and Hastings descents (ffos. 84-86.)

Dod. 4, relates to the foundation of Osolveston Abbey (fos. 95b, 96.)

There are many other MSS. relating to Leicestershire, amongst the Dodesworth MSS. The above list is by no means complete.

Kenelm Digby MS. 212, (1813.) is "Tractatus de Computo Hebraorum aptata ad Calendarium per Monachum Leic."

Bodley MS. B. 3. (2004), fo. 177b. "Nota de urbe Leicester combusta an. 1173, præcepto Regis Henrici, &c."

There is no general catalogue of the MSS. in the Bodleian Library, but brief descriptions of many of the MSS. may be found in Bernard's "Catalogi Librorum Manuscriptorum" publ^{d}. in 1697. There are good catalogues of the Gough, Malone, Douce, Tanner, and Ashmole MSS. The Dodesworth, Carte, Wood, Rawlinson, and other MSS., still require to be catalogued, as this has not at present been fully done; but the Dodesworth and Carte Catalogues are in progress.

In the *Oxford College Libraries* are a few Leic: MSS., which are described in Mr. Coxe's "Catalogue of the MSS. in the Oxford Colleges and Halls." *Corpus* Coll. MS. 154, "Statuta in Capitulo Generali Monachorum Leic: A.D. 1276." *Exeter* Coll. MS. 152, Notes of Assizes at Leicester, 11 and 12 Jac. I. *Queen's* Coll. MS. 89, Visitation of Leicester, 1619; 103, Pedigrees of the Earls of Leicester; 131, Pedigrees of Leic: families from the visitations, and notices of the Shirley family. *New College* MS. 330 is Visitation of Leicester 1619.

Of the Leicestershire MSS. in the *Public Library at Cambridge* I know nothing; excepting that I believe it contains a chartulary of Osulveston, a "Rentale," Dd. iii. 87. *Caius Coll.* MS. 519 is a Visitation of Leicester in 1619.

The *College of Arms* is rich in Leicestershire Visitations:

Visitation of Leicestershire 1563, G. 11; H. 12; and see F. 7.
Visitation of Leicestershire 1619, G. 8; Vincent's Leicester. No. 127.
Visitation of Leicestershire 1683, K.
Leicestershire Church Notes, Vincent MS. 197.
Arms of Gentry in Counties, Philpot MS. 18 W.

Lincoln's Inn Library has a small folio volume, *temp.* Car. I., containing references to Public Records relating to co. Leicester, as to Inquisitions post mortem and ad quod damnum, from 1 Edw I. to 3 Rich. III., collected by W. Swynford of Leicestershire. The reference to the MS. is *Hale* MS. lxxiv. (lxxix.)

In the Library of the *Incorporated Law Society*, in Chancery Lane, is a MS. volume of Charters relating to the town of Leicester.

There are some good Leicestershire MSS. in *Sir Thomas Phillipps's* splendid library at Thirlstane House, Cheltenham:—

46. Visitation of Leicestershire, 1619.
59. Visitation of Leicestershire, 1619. 19th cent.
3575. Palmer's Collections for Leicestershire, folio.

3576. Collections for Leicester, &c., folio.
3582. Carte's Collections for Leicestershire.
4328. Collections from the Close Rolls, Patents, &c., co. Leic. 6 John to 17 Edw. IV. fol. 16th cent.
4497. Leicestershire Pedigrees from Burton, in Tables, fol.
4498. Leicestershire Pedigrees, by Beckwith, fol.
4499. Leicestershire Visitation 1619, copied by Beckwith 1773, fol.
4840. Index to Conveyances of the Earl of Essex' lands in co Leic., &c.
9730. De Sacr. Eucharistiæ-Tractatus Roberti de Leycestriæ. 14th cent.
11176. Leicestershire Visitation 1619. 18th cent. Do. Arms. Camden's Grants from 1603 to 1615. Dugdale's Sketches of Arms.
No. 119. Ex. Bibl. Thorpe. Flower's Leicestershire Visitation, fol.
13168. Disclaimers at Visitation of Leicestershire, 1682.
16645. Fox-hunting Poems. Melton Hunt, 1830, &c.
17619. Hunter's Collections for Leicestershire, 4to.
22974. Vincent and Lennard's Vis. of Leicestershire 1619; and additions to 1652. 17th cent.

Amongst the MSS. at *Lambeth* are these relating to Leicestershire :—

585, fo. 215. Succession of Abbots of Leicester to 1496, ex Registro Leic.
589, fo. 221. History and Collections concerning the Abbots of Leicester.
643, fo. 52. Bull of Pope Gregory to the Priors of Croyland and Leicester, to decide the case of the Monks of Sempringham.
701, Vol. 8, M, fo. 153. Letter from Edmund Brudenell about an outrageous robbery in Leicestershire, 11 May, 157—.
952, fo. 27. Table of Fees of the Archdeaconry of Leicester, 20 November, 1627.

For the Ecclesiastical History of any Leicestershire parish, the *Episcopal Registers at Lincoln* must be searched. These commence as early as the episcopate of Hugo de Wells (1209 to 1235), and are kept in the Old Palace at Lincoln. They consist of two series, (1) Institutions, and (2) Miscellaneous. The Institutions give the Rectors and Vicars, with the dates of their institutions, and the names of their respective patrons. The Miscellaneous Registers contain Commissions, Visitations of Churches and Religious Houses, Presentations to Livings, Sequestrations, Foundations and Endowments of Chantries, Certificates of Commission for Consecration of Churches and Chapels, Enrolments of Wills, Ordinations of Vicarages, Taxations, Licenses for Non-residence, Inquisitions, &c., &c.

In short, nearly every act, relating to any benefice or clerk, will be found entered on these Registers. The earliest Registers are in Rolls, and are kept in a box. The later ones are in a number of folio volumes, extending from the fourteenth century to the present time. A thorough search through all these Registers must be made, down to the time when Leicestershire was separated from Lincoln diocese (1837), before a complete history of any church or its ministers could be written. This search would undoubtedly be a work of considerable labour, for the acts recorded in the Registers of this large Diocese are simply placed in precise chronological order, without any regard to Archdeaconries, &c., and there are no Indexes. Still the trouble involved in the search will be amply repaid by the interesting facts which would certainly be brought to light. Some extracts from these Lincoln Episcopal Registers are given in Harl. MSS. 6950—6954; but they do not appear to be fully given. Mr. Nichols has printed the Leicestershire entries from these Harl. MSS. in his *Bibliotheca Topographica Britannica*, Vol. vii., 561–592.

To come nearer home, the *Leicester Free Library* has a MS. entitled "History and Antiquities of Leicester," apparently compiled in 1751, with a list of the Mayors continued in a later hand. Inside the cover is written, "W. Bentley, 1763." This MS. is probably a copy of Staveley's History of Leicester.

The "*Calendar of State Papers*," *Domestic Series*, which is being published under the direction of the Master of the Rolls, contains a vast amount of information from the Public Records relating to Leicestershire. The volumes already published comprise the years 1509 to 1530, 1547 to 1640, 1649 to 1654, and 1660 to 1667. Other volumes are in preparation. The *Home Office Series* also contains several Leicestershire documents. There is a good Index at the end of every volume.

I know nothing of the Leicestershire documents in the Office of the *Clerk of the Peace at Leicester;* or of those belonging to the *Town of Leicester*. As to the latter, see *The Eighth Report of the Historical MSS. Commissioners*, which contains an account of the Charters, MSS., Hall Books, &c., belonging to the *Corporation of Leicester*, by Mr. J. C. Jeaffreson, who was assisted in his researches by Mr. Kelly. Mr. Jeaffreson speaks very highly of the value of the Corporation records, and of the way in which they have been preserved. His account of the documents comprises no less than thirty-eight pages of the Report, and contains copies of the most important documents, and an epitome of most of the others.

For the convenience of Antiquaries, I may state that the *Wills* at the Leicester Probate Court commence in the fifteenth century, and there are good Indexes. The first volume extends to the year 1562. There are two Peculiars in the County, Groby and Rothley.

The earliest wills proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, preserved at Somerset House, are of the year 1383. There is no difficulty in obtaining a Literary Search Ticket, which will enable one to search the Wills at Somerset House, down to the year 1760, free of charge. At Leicester, the fee is one shilling each will, and no extracts may be made.

In Bernard's Catalogue of MSS. mentioned above, reference is made to two Leicester MSS. in private hands, one numbered 6947 being in the possession of Sir Edward Norwich of Brampton, Northamptonshire, and relating to the Archdeaconry of Leicester; the other numbered 5285, containing "Geneal. Comit. Leic.," being Vol. 47 of the MSS. of Henry Viscount Longueville. Whether these are still extant, or no, I do not know.

The labours of the "*Historical MSS. Commission*" have brought to light a great many Leicestershire documents hitherto entirely unknown. They have already published seven Reports. From Vol. i. we learn that, amongst the muniments of His Grace the Duke of Rutland at Belvoir Castle, there are Registers of Belvoir Priory and Croxton Abbey, a Cartulary of Belvoir, Croxton Rentals, Inventories at Belvoir, Croxton, &c., and some thousands of deeds relating to numerous towns and villages at Leicester (Vol. i., pp. 11, 12).

At Baginton Hall, Warwick, the seat of W. Bromley Davenport, Esq., is a volume of Pedigrees of Warwickshire and Leicestershire families, from Sir George Naylor's library (Vol. ii., 79).

In Vols. ii. and iii. are enumerated the MSS. of the Nevilles, of Holt, in the possession of F. Peake, Esq.; and amongst these are twenty ancient grants to the Monastery of Bradeley, and numerous deeds of the twelfth, thirteenth, and fourteenth centuries, most valuable for Leicester topography (Vols. ii. 93, and iii. 278).

At Alnwick Castle, the seat of the Duke of Northumberland, is a curious letter from the Mayor and Aldermen of Leicester to the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, dated 1661, as to the election of a Burgess (iii. 90).

At the Marquis of Salisbury's seat, Hatfield House, are several letters to Cecil from Leicester Justices and gentlemen relative to this County (iii. 152, 159, 164; vi. 264*b*).

There is a copy of the Visitation of Leicestershire in 1619, at Lamport Hall, Northamptonshire, the seat of Sir Charles Isham, Bart. (iii. 253).

At Eshton Hall, York, the residence of Matthew Wilson, Esq., is a volume (xxiv.) containing Abstracts of Pedigrees of Leicester families (iii. 298).

At Newnham Paddox (Earl of Denbigh), Knowle Park, Kent (Earl de la Warr), Trentham (Duke of Sutherland), and Claydon (Sir Harry Verney, Bart.), are numerous letters relating to Leicestershire during the Civil War (Vols. iv., v., and vii).

Evelyn P. Shirley, Esq., of Ettington Hall, has some valuable Leic. genealogical MSS., including three Leic. Visitations; two of 1564, and one of 1619. His MS. 131 contains "Arms and names of Knights esquires and gentlemen in co. Leicester in 1564" by Cook. MS. 220, Arms of a Visitation of co. Leicester, 1619. There is a Charter by Queen Mary granting the Rectory of Olvescroft co. Leic. to the Univ. of Oxford (v. 362, 367, 369).

At Emmanuel Coll., Cambridge, are particulars relating to Leic. Fellows of that College, including Rd. Farmer, Rd. Dawes, &c., (iv. 417, 8).

Rev. E. Field, of Lancing College, has a quantity of seventeenth century letters, which came into his possession from the Barker family of Lyndon, Rutland. Many of these relate to Burton of Stokerston, and other Leic. families (Vol. v.).

Amongst the MSS. of Sir R. Graham, Bart., is a letter, which speaks of a Royal visit to Leicester paid by the Duke of York in 1665 (Vol. vi. 340*a*).

T. S. Raffles, Esq., of Liverpool, has several letters from the Lords of the Council to the High Sheriff of co. Leicester, concerning the dearth of corn in that county, 1630 and 1631; also a letter from the Lords of the Council to the Justices of Leicestershire, as to reparation of St. Paul's Cathedral; and a memorandum of a meeting of Leic. Kts. and gentlemen on 26 Aug. 1637 (Vol. vi.).

Amongst the House of Lords papers are Petitions against disafforesting the Forest of Leicester, 1628; Petition of Wm. Rowse as to the new Hospital at Leicester, 1640; Petition of Elizabeth Smith as to Sir Wm. Herrick and Beaumanor 1640; Petition of Inhabitants of the County, complaining of John Hannan of Nellson, 1626; documents relating to the common gaol at Leicester; the Archdeaconry (Vol. iv.). Papers from the Committee of Sequestrations, Commissioners for settling the Militia; Petitions from the sequestered Clergy, 1660 (Vol. vii.). Many documents *temp.* Civil War (Vols iv. to vii.).

At Westminster Abbey is an account of John Mall, receiver of Sir Walter Deverse, in co. Leicester, 11 and 12 Rich. II. (iv. 176.)

There is a capital Index at the end of each of the seven volumes already published by the Hist. MSS. Commissioners.

My task is now done; and I have endeavoured to give some insight into the numerous Leicestershire MSS. in our great national Libraries. If the list given above of the principal MSS. will facilitate the researches of some of our Leicestershire Antiquaries, Topographers, and I trust future Historians, and will lighten their labour, this paper will not have been written in vain.

There is still much to be done in the way of elucidating the History of our County. We want a book on the "Ecclesiastical and Architectural Topography of Leicestershire," similar to what

was done thirty years ago under the sanction of the Archæological Institute for Berks, Oxford, and other counties. Then, again, a "Bibliotheca" for Leicestershire is much needed, a work which will contain a list of all Leicestershire Books and Tracts, and of all the books written by natives of, or residents in, Leicestershire. And a book on "The Worthies of Leicestershire" would be useful. But above all we ought to aim at having a new edition of Nichols's magnificent History, revised and continued down to the present day. Let each member of this Society do his part towards elucidating the History and Antiquities of this famous County of Leicester.

THE SUMMER GENERAL MEETING

was held at Oxford on Thursday and Friday, the 23rd and 24th of June, 1881.

The Programme of proceedings was prepared by Mr. James Parker, F.S.A., and the Rev. W. G. Dimock Fletcher. Under the guidance of those gentlemen, the members were most courteously received at the different Colleges, Libraries, Museums, and Institutions, and so had opportunities—aided by an excellent plan of the city—of seeing the most attractive features in the place.

July 25th, 1881.

Captain Whitby in the chair.

Miss Susan L. R. Johnson, of Leicester, was elected a member of the Society.

Mr. North, F.S.A., contributed the second and concluding portion of

THE RUDING DIARY,

which has already been printed, pp. 306-319.

September 26th, 1881.

The Rev. Canon Pownall, F.S.A., in the chair.

Special votes of thanks were passed to the Rev. W. G. Dimock Fletcher for preparing the Programme and for carrying out the local arrangements for the late meeting at Oxford; to Mr. James

Parker, F.S.A., for his kindness in accompanying the members of the Society through the city; and the Heads of the Colleges and Public Buildings for their courteous permission to visit those places.

A Resolution expressive of the regret of the Society upon learning of the sudden death of the Earl of Gainsborough (one of its Patrons) was passed and ordered to be placed on the minutes.

The following objects of interest were exhibited:

By the Chairman: The following coins—some of them very fine specimens—William and Mary guinea, 1692; crown, 1692; half-crown, 1689; threepence, 1689; William III., half-crown, 1698; sixpence, 1697 (Exeter mint); sixpence, 1696; and sixpence, 1696 (York mint).

By Mr. Weatherhead: 1. A Roman *Amphora* (Salopian ware), wanting the rim, discovered in March, 1881, in excavating for a culvert in Humberstone Gate, Leicester; height $7\frac{3}{4}$ inches by $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter at the broadest part. 2. A Roman Vase (Castor ware) found about the month of May, 1881, in the Abbey Meadow, Leicester, during excavations. This perfect example measured $6\frac{1}{4}$ inches in height by $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, with alternate longitudinal depressions and raised portions. 3. The following specimens of Roman pottery discovered in June, 1881, in West Bond Street, Leicester, between nine and ten feet deep, viz.: Portion of Samian cup, with Potter's stamp

CAPELLIANI;

fragment of Samian bowl, with Potter's stamp on the outside

LALLINI;

portion of *mortarium* (Salopian ware), the rim ornamented with zig-zag markings of red; the upper portion, or neck, of a Salopian vessel, with rude mask, or face (that of a female), depicted thereon, ornamented with the usual red distemper. Mr. Weatherhead remarked that the last mentioned example was of a kind rarely found in this neighbourhood, he having seen but a solitary specimen, that found in South Bond Street, Leicester, in the year 1861.

By Mr. R. Berridge (through the Rev. C. H. Wood): An oval tobacco box, four inches long by one inch high, the lid beautifully engraved with steel and scroll ornaments surrounding a lion rampant, within an oval; by William Fleming. Britannia standard, date 1707; a silver reliquary, with a ring for suspension, date unknown, but probably comparatively modern; a silver oval seal, and a silver circular seal, each engraved with a coat of arms; a small silver article—use unknown.

By the Rev. C. H. Wood: A leaden casket shaped like a sarcophagus, said to have been found thirty years ago, in a cavern

near to Dudley: it stood on four feet, and had a handle at each end; the lid worked on two hinges, and the sides and top were rudely ornamented with angelic figures, &c., &c.

By Mr. W. J. Freer: A small collection of coins, including silver ones of Edward III., Henry III., Henry VI., and Edward IV.; a rare gold twenty-franc piece of the twelfth year of the French Republic, Napoleon Buonaparte first Consul; and a twenty-franc piece of Napoleon I., dated 1812.

The Rev. Canon Pownall read the following

NOTES ON A MANUSCRIPT OF THE FOURTEENTH CENTURY.

During a recent visit to Brussels (August, 1881) I had an opportunity of seeing some of the famous Manuscripts in the Burgundian Library, at the *Bibliotheque Royale*, and amongst others my attention was drawn more especially to one which has an interest for the diocese of Peterborough, and from that circumstance deserves mention in this Society's Transactions. The manuscript I refer to is a very fine illuminated Psalter of the middle of the fourteenth century. The lettering is blue and gold, in alternate columns, there being two columns on each page. The colour and the gilding are in excellent condition, the gold standing up on the vellum as firm and full and bright as it did when first laid on.

From the special prominence assigned to Saint Benedict by those who executed the work, the manuscript is considered to have been the production of Benedictines, and for other reasons, that of English Benedictines. Those familiar with manuscripts detect English features in its character. First of all, there is a great evenness in the writing, as also a free use of rich colour, giving a gem-like view to the page, something like that which is noticed in ancient painted glass. These differences are sufficient to separate this work from French work of the period, for the French were less careful about brilliancy of colouring than were the English. Besides this, its thorough English character is shown by the occurrence of many names of English Saints in the calendar with which it begins:—Cuthbert, Dunstan, and others, in whose names the prayers at the end of the book are offered. Tokens of this sort usually help librarians to determine not only in what country, but sometimes even in what diocese and city a particular manuscript was executed. Precedence is given therein to one saint—the patron saint of the locality—which saint in another calendar, produced in another diocese or city, would have no place at all. These English characteristics in this manuscript, taken together, therefore point with accuracy to the country and place of its production, notwithstanding the repetition of the French fleur-de-lys

in its highly ornamental pages. That repetition of the French lily is accounted for thus: the manuscript unquestionably belonged to Charles the Fifth, King of France, surnamed "The Wise," and was doubtless executed by his order, for he was noted as a patron of this kind of painting. That it belonged to him is certain, for a description of it appears in a catalogue of the manuscripts which were once in his possession. The initial words and the pictures on the first and second pages are given in that catalogue, so that there can be no mistake about it. Now, at the commencement of the fourteenth century, the Benedictine Abbey of Peterborough was famous beyond the bounds of England for works of this illuminating art. To use the expression of M. Charles Ruelens, the Keeper of the Manuscripts in the Royal Library, Peterborough was then the nursery *(pepinière)* of such artists. Consequently it is to the Benedictine monks of Peterborough that this beautiful specimen of Early English illumination is attributed. All this is stated on the authority of M. Charles Ruelens; and the late Mr. Coxe, Librarian of the Bodleian, confirmed his opinion by sharing it. The subsequent history of the manuscript is curious. In the fifteenth century it was purchased from France, with many others, by "Philip the Good," Duke of Burgundy, and thenceforth became an important item on the shelves of the Burgundian Library, at Brussels. On the capture of that city, in 1746, by Marshall Saxe, it was carried off to Paris, one of the spoils of war. Restored in 1770, it was again carried away to Paris, with a number more, during the war of the Revolution, and was again restored in 1815.

November 28th, 1881.

The Rev. Canon Pownall, F.S.A., in the chair.

Mr. W. F. Johnson, of the Bank Buildings, Leicester, was elected a member of the Society.

The following communication was made by the Chairman on behalf of the Mountsorrel Granite Company: On the 15th of June, 1881, as some workmen employed in clearing away the surface soil to lay bare the granite, which is being worked by the Mountsorrel Granite Company, they came upon a sepulchral chamber, of the Roman period. The chamber was found one foot below the present surface of the soil, and about fifty yards from the highest point of Mountsorrel, which point is perhaps forty feet higher. The shape was nearly a parallelogram with the largest side eight feet three inches, with a corner cut out reducing the opposite side to six feet seven inches; the shorter side being seven feet, and the opposite side three feet seven inches, and two feet seven inches. The height

might have averaged four feet. The thickness of the wall was one foot four inches, coated with plaster one inch to two and a half inches thick. The plastered wall on one side was divided into panels produced by bands of red colour. One measured one foot eight inches, the other four feet. Within the panel was a rude pattern of shapeless smears of colour, sometimes converging to a common centre. The indented side was panelled by a bright deep red band, two inches wide. A dado eight inches from the floor was to be seen, and within the panelled space a figure like the letter A. On the long side, were brush markings, the colours red, black, and umber. The seven feet side, which included part of the opening made by the quarrymen, apparently consisted of one large panel, with markings as in the others. One foot below the present surface outside the chamber and independent of it, a band of mortar, &c., three to seven inches thick, was to be observed on the face of the ground excavated. This lay above the original grass growing soil. Two years ago another chamber resembling this but not plastered, and ruder, was discovered at a distance about twelve yards from this. The floor of the chamber was laid down with very rough Swithland slates, in clay, or very bad lime concrete. The red lines were something like the arms of an octopus. Some of the contents of the chamber have been preserved, and are, 1. Bones, perhaps of deer. 2. Portions of a stag's antlers, showing saw marks; and on one of these marks of imperfect incision by some less perfect instrument. 3. Pieces of broken pottery, dark coloured, and of tiles. 4. Pieces of the plaster from the walls of the chamber, shewing coloured markings. 5. Small iron arrow-head.

The following note was next read by the Chairman describing a find of coins at Broughton Astley, near Lutterworth, in November, 1881. On the 9th instant, when the thatched roof of the White Horse Inn was being stripped to make way for a roof of slate, there was discovered hidden away in the thatch a piece of homespun cloth in which were stowed away some silver coins of the seventeenth century, six crowns, seventeen halfcrowns, three shillings and two farthings. They were chiefly pieces of William III.'s time, some of the great re-coinage of 1696-97; but there were a few pieces also of Charles II., including two of his farthings, with the legend CAROLVS A CAROLO on the reverse. The find has no special importance, but it is worth recording.

Mr. W. J. Freer exhibited a silver penny of Edward III., coined by Hatfield, Bishop of Durham, weighing fourteen and a half grains, proper weight eighteen grains. Obv. DVS REX. "lis," on the king's breast. Rev. CIVIT. OLM. one of the limbs of the cross was bent crosier fashion; the particular mark of Hatfield, Bishop of Durham, 1345-81.

Mr. Weatherhead exhibited a curious German axe of the

seventeenth century. The blade was pierced in the centre with trefoil and stem (forming a cross), the top corner was pierced with five holes, the lower corner with three. The back of the blade, with hammer-like process, blade stamp M K, and star of eight points. The haft or handle was two feet three inches long, of dark wood, inlaid with a scroll pattern in brass; the upper portion of the back represented a rude figure of our Saviour on the Cross, surmounted with the letters INRI; below was a pedestal-like figure, cruciform, with rude face; on either side of the haft a hooded monk in the attitude of prayer (one missing). On the lower side portions of the haft were three pedestal-like figures cruciform, with rude faces (one wanting). The remainder of the haft was studded and inlaid with bone, in ovals, trefoils, and quatrefoils with floral devices engraved, and with numerous small pellet-shaped pieces depicting rude faces. The basal portion of the handle for about four inches, which was wholly of bone, was also engraved with flowers; hammer and mallet in one oval, cross-swords, &c., in another. The extreme base had the hammer and mallet repeated, and bore the date 1666 A. N. In the Tower these weapons are termed "German Civic Axes." A similar weapon, in the collection of Goodrich court, Herefordshire, is figured in *Meyrick's Antient Armour*, Vol. ii., plate 83, fig. 15, and is described as a "Dutch Battle Axe, having on it the date 1685, the handle being ornamented with ivory. C. K."

The following Paper was forwarded by Mr. North.

THE ETHNOGRAPHY OF LEICESTERSHIRE:

an unfinished Essay by the late James Thompson, F.R.H.S.

I propose to offer, on the present occasion, a few observations on the Ethnography of Leicestershire, and on some of its antiquities as illustrative of that subject. The term "ethnography," I may premise, is one introduced at a comparatively late date into our language, and signifies a description of races, being derived from two Greek words. In its application to the enquiry before us, it is designed to include an account of the different races of men from whom the population of this town and county is descended, and an investigation into the traces of them yet existing.

Without further preface, therefore, I proceed to lay before you the results I have so far obtained.

Unfortunately history does not throw the least light on the

primitive condition of the inhabitants of this district. Who populated it—whence the aborigines came—when they first settled here—even their very name as a tribe—what were the peculiarities of their customs and personal appearance—what their superstitions —are all matters of mere conjecture. With the exception of the Welch triads, which profess to refer to the earliest days, but which are dim and shadowy as the age to which they relate, we have no literature bearing on the enquiry. The question whether the original inhabitants were Celts or Teutons is still open to controversy; but the most accomplished scholars of modern times are generally of opinion that the early population of Britain was not purely Celtic, although for a long time it has been the custom among antiquaries to suppose that the Gauls from France were the sole colonizers of Ancient Britain. It would, perhaps, be only fair to conclude that the Celtic and Teutonic tribes from the earliest periods intermingled in this island.

A very learned student of the past—the author of the *Caledonia Romana*—has observed that the names of the oldest landmarks of a country, such, for instance, as its mountains, its rivers, and its woods, are in most cases those which its earliest occupants gave to them, and which have been transmitted from each generation to its successor. The writer to whom I refer has adduced many instances in illustration of his statement. Nor does it seem improbable that the wandering tribes who first disputed the tenancy of the plains and woods of our native land with the wild beasts and the birds of prey, would give to the stream near which they pitched their hasty camp, or to the hill that rose on their view as they wandered along, some characteristic and expressive designation. The colour of the stream, the shape of the mountain, or even an accidental circumstance might determine the name of a natural feature of the landscape, and when tribe began to adjust with tribe the boundaries of its territory, these would form the divisions of district from district, and their names would be incorporated in the speech of the population. But even this supposes its settlement in a locality, a proceeding which forms one of the stages of man's advancement, and that far from the earliest. According to historic evidence, and judging from the examples afforded by existing races in barbarian countries, the primitive condition in which men are found is that of hunters. They settle nowhere—they pursue the wild animal—they gather the fruit from the tree—they scratch the root from the earth—and, as almost every man's hand is raised against that of his fellow, they lodge on the mountain top for security. The next stage of progress appears to be the capturing and training of animals, and their collection into herds. At this time some kind or degree of fixture of habitation becomes convenient, and ultimately necessary. From this follows accumulation of property, and, in due time barter and

sale are instituted; and then man leaves the hill summit for its grassy slopes, ultimately descending to the level plain, where he becomes a dweller in cities. This process, so briefly told in words —in which man is first the hunter, then the grazier, and lastly the trader—is accomplished only by successive generations in a long period of time; and therefore man may have lived for centuries in this land before the mountains and streams were named.

In Leicestershire, fortunately for our enquiry, we have a few indications yet left of the primitive times. The name of the most noted hill in the county, Bardon, is undoubtedly that which the first settlers gave it, and is clearly Celtic, being compounded of two words—*Bar* and *dun*—the latter signifying a hill or mountain, and "bar" being in all probability some qualifying or descriptive phrase. Billesdon in this county takes its name, probably, from the adjoining hill, which was a "don" or "dun" in the time of the aborigines, altering its name in the Anglo-Saxon period to the "Coplow"—a designation meaning the "hill barrow," or burial mound. Buddon is another name for a hill in this county wherein the Celtic root is discernible, associated with the word Budd, the name of the Mars of the Druidical mythology. Breedon, Bowdon, Garendon, and Quorndon, also suggest the existence of elevated sites in their neighbourhood. But we have the term distinct and obvious in its purport, in connection with the most celebrated mountain in Wales—Snowdon, the snowy mountain—so called from the nature or state of its summit.

The only river of any importance we have in the county is the Soar or Leir, which in its ancient state flowed by Leicester, and in far less confined banks than at present. It gave its name to this town—such, at least, is the supposition—when the Angles or Anglo-Saxons settled on the site of the Roman encampment called *Ratæ*. At first the place was known as Ligoracester, then Leircester; and subsequently to the Norman Conquest it acquired its present appellative. The river was originally designated the Ligur —the word being softened into Leir, by the conversion of the *g* into *y* in the pronunciation. It is a singular fact that the Leir is traceable to the same root as the name of the French river, the Loire; for both were in their original shape pronounced Ligur or Lyur, and this is stated to be a Celtic term for water.

If we refer to the name given by the Romans to their predecessors, whom they found dwelling in the Midlands on their arrival, we shall also find some trace of the Celtic. They were known as the *Coritani*—a term supposed to be the Romanized form of two words, Coit-tan (meaning the woodland people), the r and the i being inserted for the sake of sound and the adaptation of the pronunciation to Latin tongues.

It may be assumed, then, that the first dwellers on the soil of

Leicestershire were Celtic in origin, descended from some immigrating party, which found its way here from ancient France. But their numbers were comparatively few; it cannot be supposed they would be many thousands. We have the authority of Cæsar for believing that the ancient Britons knew of no architecture beyond that of the rude barbarian, though the tribes with whom the great warrior came in contact near the coast had evidently arrived at the pastoral state, living in permanent enclosures or encampments in the woods, and knowing how to barter commodities. It is not improbable that at the same period the Midland Britons were in various stages of progress, from that of the hunter shepherd to that of the bartering settler in a village. The great evidence of a tribe having attained to a semi-commercial position is their fixed location on a known site, where their persons and property were more secure than in the open forest, and where they might be resorted to by their brethren of the less advanced order. I think we have evidence in the Roman name of Ratæ that this site was known as a "Rath," that is, a cleared space, a place of location for the aborigines anterior to the Roman invasion. It is a matter for conjecture, also, whether the places in Leicestershire already named as terminating in *don* may not have been village settlements of the Coritanian tribes.

Mr. Potter has, in his *Charnwood Forest*, traced the remains of a Celtic settlement in that part of Leicestershire. He records the discovery of a quern or hand-mill, and a celt or chisel-shaped instrument (apparently of bronze) with the existence of hanging stones, a stone table, a circle of stones, an ancient British trackway, and entrenchments on Beacon Hill—all indications (corresponding to similar ones found in various parts of this country and France) of the early presence in Leicestershire of a Celtic population.

Passing on to a subsequent period, we learn from a general reference in an ancient work that the Roman invader found his way into this part of the country about the middle of the first century, when the Midlands of England were subdued by his arms. Unlike the population already settled in the land, the Romans fixed and built upon sites which they fitted for the purposes of habitation and defence. At first these sites were merely chosen for temporary purposes, it being the custom of the Roman armies to entrench themselves every evening before seeking repose, but the disposition of the tents inside was so methodical and well arranged, the rows being divided by alleys, that a camp was a town in the rough. When necessary, the conquerors replaced the tents by huts or houses, the earthen mounds by stone walls, and the temporary openings by gates of masonry; so that we find the outlines of modern towns on ancient sites retaining their original form in the main, after the lapse of nearly eighteen hundred years.

In this county, in addition to Leicester, are several places where Roman stations once existed. First of these to be noticed is one near Claybrooke, which was known anciently as *Bennones*, called by the Saxon Claycester. Here Roman coins, great square stones and bricks, and rubble have been turned up. One of the coins was a Caius Caligula, stamped in the forty-second year of the Christian era. Another station is Borough-on-the-Hill—its modern name derived from a Saxon word, borough or burgh, meaning a fortified place. A third Roman Station is traceable on the borders of Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire, at Willoughby; a fourth is said to be discernible at Knaptoft; and a fifth at Market Harborough.

In addition to these larger works, tessellated pavements, coins, pottery, and other relics have been found at Medbourne, Oadby, Birstall, Wanlip and elsewhere; while other discoveries, we may infer, have been made but not noted. Barrows covering the last remains of Roman officers and men of rank have also been examined, and others remain to be examined. The pavements at Medbourne and Wanlip were in all probability the floorings of country villas, occupied by proprietors and cultivators belonging to the conquering race. What those villas were in extent may be easily imagined by those persons who visited the excavations recently made near Danett's Hall. They were dwellings which covered a great extent of ground, and which were furnished with the comforts, if not the luxuries, of a civilized people. Within, the walls were painted in rich hues, and graceful patterns, the floors were paved with laborious skill in stones of varigated colours and outlines, the roofs and porticoes were sustained by columns of stone, statuary was not wanting, the pottery that decked the tables was elegantly formed, and the gardens around these mansions were cultivated with a skill and taste not inferior to those employed in modern times.

The question with which we have, however, especially to deal, is the tracing of Roman relics only so far as they prove the presence of that illustrious people in this county. Of this we have abundant evidence; but of their numbers, when settled here, we can form no correct idea. For though the official staff and the principal cohorts of the armies were of Italian derivation and would present the peculiar physiognomy of the mighty and martial race, the auxiliary troops were drawn from almost all the countries of Europe. The olive complexion, the dark eyes and hair, the aquiline nose, the spare form, the moderate stature, and the stern countenance of the Roman legionary, would be contrasted in the ranks with the fair faces, the ruddy countenances, the blue eyes, and the fleshy and stalwart frames of the conscripts raised in the German provinces. It is this fact which enhances the difficulty of our enquiry.

The principal officers of Ratæ, or Leicester, were undoubtedly from the south of Europe. They wielded their sway here for nearly four centuries. They gave laws to the people, not merely of this station but of the surrounding district; and exacted tribute from the natives living in the county in the parts lying between it and the other seats of Roman authority.

[It is evident that the foregoing was written by Mr. Thompson many years ago, when the Cherry Orchard was in existence, and when Danett's Hall was still standing. The manuscript was placed in my hands by Miss Thompson soon after the death of her brother. It is to be regretted that an Essay so gracefully and graphically begun was never completed. T. N.]

INDEX.

Page

Agar, Mr., exhibits Antiquities, &c. .. 16, 80, 215, 219, 229, 305, 329

Ashby, Captain, exhibits Antiquities 285

Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Meeting at 1

,, Church 227, 303

Badge of the Society chosen 87

Barclay, Dr., exhibits Antiquities 285

Barfoot, Alderman, exhibits Antiquities 185

Barwell, Mr., exhibits Antiquities, &c. 20

Beaumanor, Old Coach at 39

,, Notes on some Curiosities at 185

Belgrave Church 91

Bellairs, Major, exhibits Antiquities, &c. .. 16, 199, 217, 284, 292

,, Notes on Wigston's Arms (*Illustrated*) 197

,, Roman Leicester, further Remarks thereon (*Illustrated*) .. 219

Berridge, Mr. R., exhibits Antiquities 342

Blaston, S. Giles' Church 181

Breedon, Visit to 6

Broughton Astley, Coins found at 345

Bubbenhall, Tiles found at 76

Buckminster Church 91

Burbage Church 227

Burfield, Rev. Canon, exhibits Antiquities, &c. 16

Cambridge, Meeting at 166

Campden House 199

Castle Donington Church 91

Page

Church and the Stage, The 298
Claybrooke Church 181
Coleorton, Visit to 8
Cranoe Church, Ancient Cross of 304

Deakin, Mr. J., exhibits Antiquities 87
Denbigh, Earl of, his MSS. 183
Dibbin, Mr. H. A., on Medbourne Tessellated Pavement (*Illustrated*) 69
Dickson, Rev. Dr., exhibits Curiosities, &c. 219
„ „ on The Last Verses of Scott 286

Edith Weston Church 210
Emberlin, H. E., exhibits Antiquities, &c. 16
Empingham Church 212
Exton Church 211

Farebrother, Rev. T., exhibits Antiquities, &c. 9, 19, 197
Fletcher, Rev. W. G. D., on Two Leicestershire Parish Registers 232, 273
„ „ „ on The Ancient Brasses in Loughborough Church 298
„ „ „ Notes on Leicestershire MSS. in the Public Record Office and our National Libraries 324
Freer, Mr. W. J., exhibits Antiquities 59, 87, 165, 218, 285, 297, 303, 343, 345
Frisby-on-the-Wreake, Registers of 26
Frolesworth Church 182

Gainsborough, Earl of, exhibits Antiquities 184
Glen Magna Church 54
Glen Parva, Discoveries at 72
Gumley Church 54

Halford Family, Grant of Arms to 320
Hallaton Church 71
Harby Church 91

Page

Hill, Rev. J. H., F.S.A., exhibits Antiquities 19, 25, 38, 39, 57, 58, 60, 69, 165, 169, 169, 175, 196, 297, 304

„ „ on Medbourne Tessellated Pavement, Hallaton Church, &c. 70

„ „ on Tiles found at Bubbenhall 76

„ „ on Medbourne and its Antiquities .. 170

„ „ on Campden House 199

„ „ an Ancient Cross from Cranoe Church .. 304

Hinckley Church 90

Hobson, Mr., exhibits Antiquities 303

Hoby, Ancient Deeds relating to 203

Holt Church 181

Hothorpe (Northants) a Ring found at 9

Hugglescote Church 228

Hunt, Mr. John, exhibits Antiquities, &c. 9, 25, 38, 49, 57, 165, 169, 199, 215, 231, 284, 296, 304, 305

Johnson, Rev. J., exhibits Antiquities 305

Ketton Church 208

Knight, Colonel, on Glen Parva 72

Laughton Church 303

Leicester, Encaustic Tile from S. Leonard's Church 25

„ Wigston's Hospital, the last of, ... 11

„ Mayor's Seat in the Churches of 20

„ Excavations at 41, 55, 57, 169

„ Roman Relics found at 49, 55, 169, 185, 197

„ Coins of the Mint at 230

„ All Saints' Church 14

„ S. Nicolas' Church 14

„ S. Saviour's Church 14, 54, 89

„ Trinity Hospital 14, 54

„ S. Leonard's Church 54, 90

Page

Leicester, Domestic Architecture in 55
„ Ancient Records of 92
„ S. George's Church 226
„ S. Martin's Church 227, 303
„ S. Peter's Church 227
„ Roman Pavement in Jewry Wall Street 296
Leicestershire, Potters' Stamps on Samian Ware, found in 73
Leicestershire MSS, Notes on 324
Leicestershire, Ethnography of 346
Loughborough Church, Brasses in 298
Luffenham, North, Church 209
Lutterworth Church, Mural Painting in 293

Marriott, Rev. W. H., exhibits Antiquities 79
Medbourne Tessellated Pavement (*Illustrated*) 69, 92
„ and its Antiquities 170
„ Church 181, 303
Melbourne, Visit to 3
Melton Mowbray Church 15, 54, 91
„ Church Guilds at 42
Morley, Mr. F. R., exhibits Antiquities, &c. .. 80, 100, 175, 199, 304
Mountsorrel Granite Co. report antiquarian discovery 345

Neale, Mr. James, F.S.A., on S. Alban's Abbey 96
Nevinson, Mr. G. H., exhibits Antiquities, &c. 16, 20, 25, 41
Nevinson, Mr. Thomas, exhibits Antiquities 169, 175
North, Mr. Thomas, F.S.A., on The Last of Wigston's Hospital .. 11
„ „ Report for the Year 1875 13
„ „ on the late Mr. W. Perry-Herrick .. 17
„ „ on the Mayor's Seat in the Churches of Leicester 20
„ „ on the Parish Registers of Frisby-on-the-Wreake 26
„ „ on Church Guilds of Melton Mowbray .. 42
„ „ Report for the Year 1876 53
„ „ on the late Mr. James Thompson 60

Page

North, Mr. Thomas, F.S.A., Report for the Year 1877 88
„ „ on the Parish Records of Saxelby 100
„ „ on the Letters of Alderman Robert Heyricke of Leicester, 1590-1617 108
„ „ Ancient Papers relating to Melton Mowbray Town Estate 163
„ „ Notes on the Arms of Wigston 175
„ „ Report for the Year 1878 178
„ „ Notes on some Curiosities at Beaumanor Park (*Illustrated*) 185
„ „ on Charter relating to Sewstern (1328-9) .. 216
„ „ Report for the Year 1879 224
„ „ Ruding Diary 306

Ordish, Mr. F., exhibits Antiquities, &c. 19, 80, 218
Oxford, General Summer Meeting at 341

Paget, Mr. A. H., exhibits Antiquities, &c. 8
Perry-Herrick, the late Mr. W., Notice of 17
Pownall, Rev. Canon, F.S.A., exhibits Antiquities, &c. 9, 10, 16, 195, 229, 286, 292, 296, 303, 324, 342
„ „ Notes on a MS. of the Fourteenth Century 343

Ratby Church 228
Report, Annual, for 1875 13
„ for 1876 53
„ for 1877 88
„ for 1878 178
„ for 1879 224
„ for 1880 301
Rothley Church 180
Ruding Diary 306

Page

S. Alban's, Meeting at 30
„ Abbey, Mr. Neale on 96
Sarson, Mr., exhibits Antiquities, &c. 16
Saxelby, Parish Records of 100
Sewstern, Ancient Deed relating to 216
Shackerstone Parish Register 232, 241
Sileby Church 182, 303
Smisby, Visit to 3
Somerby Parish Register 236, 273
Southwell, Meeting at 62
Spencer, Mr. John, exhibits Antiquities 296
Stamford, Meeting at 204

Thompson, Mr. James (the late), on Vessels found at Irchester .. 16
„ Notice of the late 60
„ Ruding Diary 306
„ Ethnography of Leicestershire 346
Thrussington, Flint found at 79
Thrussington Church 91
Thursby, Mrs., on a Wall Painting in Lutterworth Church .. 293
Tickencote Church 214
Tower, Rev. E., exhibits Antiquities 165

Walcott, Rev. Prebendary, on the Church and the Stage 298
Wanlip, Coin found at 9
Wartnaby, Mr., exhibits Antiquities, &c. 9, 58
Watson, Mr. H., exhibits Antiquities 320
Weatherhead, Mr., exhibits Antiquities, &c. 9, 58, 169, 197, 297, 342, 345
„ on Potters' Marks on Samian Ware found in Leicestershire 73
„ on Grant of Arms to Halford Family 320
Whitby, Captain, exhibits Antiquities, &c. 40, 58, 79, 165, 217, 219, 229, 285, 292, 296, 297

Page

Wigston's Arms, Notes on 175, 197

Wood, Rev. C. H., exhibits Antiquities 229, 231, 285, 342

Worthington, Visit to 7

Young, Mr. Joseph, exhibits Antiquities 285

END OF VOLUME V.

SAMUEL CLARKE, PRINTER, LEICESTER.

TRANSACTIONS

OF

THE LEICESTERSHIRE

Architectural and Archæological

SOCIETY.

VOLUME V.

LEICESTER: SAMUEL CLARKE.
1882.

Leicester: Printed by Samuel Clarke.

PREFACE.

THE contributor of each Paper is alone responsible for any facts stated, and opinions expressed.

Prior to the year 1881 it had been the custom to print in these Transactions all Papers read before this Society relating in any way to Leicestershire, whether such Papers had, or had not, already appeared in the annual volumes of Reports and Papers issued by the Associated Societies.

That plan was adopted for two reasons—first, that inasmuch as the publication of our Transactions in a separate form was not commenced until some years after the formation of the Society, it appeared desirable that members who had then recently joined, and who, at that time, formed the majority on our list, should possess copies of all local Papers read at an earlier period, and in the second place because the plan then adopted brought all our Leicestershire contributions together in a form most likely to be of use to the future historian of the County.

But having now reached the point in our Transactions when Reports of Meetings held, and of Papers read, are brought down to the present time, it was thought by the Committee of the

Society, assembled at the Annual Meeting, held in January, 1881, that a change shall be made by your Editorial Secretary with regard to the printing in our separate Transactions of such Papers as shall hereafter be selected for printing in the annual volumes of the Reports and Papers of the Associated Societies. What that change is, is shewn by the following Resolution then passed:

> "That the Editorial Secretary be requested to observe that when any Paper read before this Society is published in the Volume of the Associated Societies such Paper shall not be also printed in the Transactions of this Society, but only such a reference to it, or short abstract of it, as he may think desirable, unless the Committee at any time decide otherwise."

This Resolution must of course be my guide for the future, and gentlemen contributing Papers will kindly understand that they will be dealt with accordingly.

THOMAS NORTH, F.S.A.,

Editorial Secretary.

Llanfairfechan, North Wales.

June, 1882.

CONTENTS OF VOLUME V.

	PAGE.
General Summer Meeting at Ashby-de-la-Zouch, 10th and 11th August, 1875	1
Annual Excursion	2
Bi-Monthly Meeting, 27th September, 1875	8
Bi-Monthly Meeting, 29th November, 1875	9
The Last of Wigston's Hospital, Leicester, by Mr. North, F.S.A.	11
Annual Meeting, 31st January, 1876	13
Bi-Monthly Meeting, 27th March, 1876	17
The Mayor's Seat in the Churches of Leicester, by Mr. North, F.S.A.	20
Bi-Monthly Meeting, 29th May, 1876.	25
The Parish Registers of Frisby-on-the-Wreake, Leicestershire, by Mr. North, F.S.A.	26
Special Meeting, 10th July, 1876	29
General Summer Meeting and Excursion: S. Albans, 19th and 20th July, 1876	30
Bi-Monthly Meeting, 31st July, 1876	38
Bi-Monthly Meeting, 25th September, 1876 (*with Illustration*)	39
The Church Guilds of Melton-Mowbray, by Mr. North, F.S.A.	42
Bi-Monthly Meeting, 27th November, 1876	48
Annual Meeting, 29th January, 1877	53
Bi-Monthly Meeting, 26th March, 1877	57
Bi-Monthly Meeting, 28th May, 1877	59
General Summer Meeting and Excursions: Southwell, 13th and 14th June, 1877	62

PAGE.

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 30th July, 1877 69

The Medbourne Tessellated Pavement: Notes on, by Mr. Dibbin (*with Illustration*) 69

The Medbourne Tessellated Pavement, Hallaton Church and Castle Hill: Notes on, by Rev. J. H. Hill, F.S.A. . . . 70

Glen Parva: Notes on Anglo-Saxon Relics found at, by Colonel Knight . 72

Potters' Marks on Samian Ware found in Leicestershire, by Mr. Weatherhead 73

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 24th September, 1877 75

Presumed Roman Tiles: Notes on, by Rev. J. H. Hill, F.S.A. . 76

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 26th November, 1877 79

Annual Meeting, 28th January, 1878 87

S. Alban's Abbey, by Mr. James Neale, F.S.A. 96

Public Evening Meeting 97

Four Periods of Gothic Architecture in S. Alban's Abbey, by Mr. James Neale, F.S.A. 98

The Parish Records of Saxilby, Leicestershire, by Mr. North, F.S.A. . 100

The Letters of Alderman Robert Heyricke of Leicester, 1590-1617, by Mr. North, F.S.A. 108

Melton-Mowbray Town Estate: Documents relating to . . 163

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 27th May, 1878 165

Annual Summer Meeting at Cambridge, 16th and 17th July, 1878 . 166

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 29th July, 1878 168

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 30th September, 1878 . . . 169

Medbourne: by the Rev. J. H. Hill, F.S.A. 170

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 25th November, 1878 . . . 175

Notes on the Arms of Wigston, by Mr. North, F.S.A. . . . 175

Annual Meeting, 27th January, 1879 178

Notes on some Curiosities at Beaumanor Park, by Mr. North, F.S.A. (*with Illustrations*) 185

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 31st March, 1879 195

Notes on the Wigston Arms, by Major Bellairs (*with Illustration*) . . 197

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 26th May, 1879 199

Campden House: by Rev. J. H. Hill, F.S.A. 199

Annual Summer Meeting at Stamford, 28th and 29th May, 1879 . 204

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 28th July, 1879 215

PAGE.

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 29th September, 1879 . . . 218

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 24th November, 1879 218

Roman Leicester: Further Remarks Thereon: by Major Bellairs (*with Plan*) 219

Annual Meeting, 26th January, 1880 224

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 29th March, 1880 231

Two Leicestershire Parish Registers, by the Rev. W. G. Dimock Fletcher 234

Shackerstone Parish Register 241

Somerby Parish Register 273

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 31st May, 1880 284

The Last Verses of Scott, by Rev. Dr. Dickson . . . 286

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 26th July, 1880 292

Wall Painting in Lutterworth Church, by Mrs. Thursby . . . 293

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 27th September, 1880 296

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 29th November, 1880 296

The Ancient Brasses of Loughborough Church, by The Rev. W. G. Dimock Fletcher 298

Annual Meeting, 31st January, 1881 300

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 28th March, 1881 305

The Ruding Diary, by the late Mr. James Thompson, F.R.H.S., and Mr. North, F.S.A. 306

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 30th May, 1881 319

Grant of Arms to Halford Family, by Mr. Weatherhead . . . 320

Notes on Leicestershire MSS. in the Public Record Office and Our National Libraries, by the Rev. W. G. Dimock Fletcher . . 324

General Summer Meeting at Oxford 341

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 25th July, 1881 341

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 26th September, 1881 341

Notes on MS. of Fourteenth Century, by Rev. Canon Pownall, F.S.A. . 343

Bi-Monthly Meeting, 28th November, 1881 344

The Ethnography of Leicestershire, an unfinished Essay by the late Mr. James Thompson, F.R.H.S. 346

Publications of the
Leicestershire Architectural and Archæological Society.

Its Transactions (Illustrated), Vols. I. to V. inclusive: in Cloth Antique, Price 16s. (or to Members 10s. 6d.) each Volume.

Reports and Papers of the Associated Societies (Illustrated) for the years 1850 to 1855, and for the years 1864 to 1879 inclusive, 5s. each.

Leicester: Samuel Clarke.

MR. NORTH'S

VOLUMES ON

CHURCH BELLS.

THE CHURCH BELLS OF LEICESTERSHIRE: Their Inscriptions, Traditions and Peculiar Uses, with Chapters on Church Bells and the Leicester Bellfounders—*Foolscap Quarto*, 309 *Pages*, 100 *Woodcuts: Price* 15*s*.

THE CHURCH BELLS OF NORTHAMPTONSHIRE: similarly treated.—*Foolscap Quarto*, 470 *Pages*, 125 *Woodcuts: Price* 21*s*.

THE CHURCH BELLS OF RUTLAND: similarly described: *Foolscap Quarto*, 176 *Pages*, 40 *Woodcuts: Price* 10*s*. 6*d*.

SOME OPINIONS ON THE ABOVE:

"Thanks to the devotion of inquirers like Mr. North, we shall, in course of time, possess accounts of all the bells in England, but no compiler is likely to surpass Mr. North in care and diligence. This is saying a good deal, seeing what excellent volumes have been devoted to the subject."—*Athenæum*.

"One after another the bell lists of the different counties are being collected and published, and none of them better than those which have been undertaken by Mr. North."—*Notes and Queries*.

"Must be studied by the historian of English manners."—*Standard*.

"An unexpectedly pleasant book.—*Saturday Review*.

"We recommend [our readers] to see for themselves how excellent a work of the kind it is."—*Guardian*.

"Mr. North has marshalled his materials in a way which leaves nothing to be desired."—*Church Bells*.

". . . . is full of matter which will be specially useful to those whose attention is being directed to bells as a new subject of research, and its value is much enhanced by the copious references to authorities which will be found at the foot of every page."—*Archæological Journal*.

We must not omit to call attention to the engravings—some of these are of great beauty."—*Academy*.

"I think your book a very complete and thorough account of our Northants bells."—*The Very Rev. Lord Alwyne Compton*.

"The beau-ideal of what such a book should be."—*The Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, F.S.A.*

*** The Leicestershire Volume is out of print: there are a few copies of each of the other Volumes unsubscribed for: application may be made to the publisher, MR. SAMUEL CLARKE, 5, GALLOWTREE GATE, LEICESTER.

1341